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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH 2011

'Public artwork has its place, but there are more important issues'

— insists regeneration board member

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN



One of the bollards that sparked the controversy over the cost of artwork additions to the Thompson Street regeneration scheme.

A member of the Barry Regeneration Board has responded to complaints raised by local people over the cost of 'artwork' additions to the Thompson Street facelift.

Two extra features of the regeneration are the artistic bollards which were installed at a cost of £30,000, and art panels, which are due to be added to the wall of a shop at a cost of £10,000.

However, Mr Paul Haley pointed out that there was a Welsh Government requirement for area improvements to be visually enhanced with new art.

He said: "In any new development, there has to be an element of public art, and I'm in favour of art bringing an area to life.

"If you go to Cardiff Bay, you will see examples of it — on Thompson

Street Bridge, at Iolo Park and the new Newydd building by Morrisons.

"Are critics saying that all public art should be stopped?

"Developers have to give one per cent of the project total for public art — it's a requirement."

The new bollards do have a practical purpose — discouraging motorists from parking on pavements when new parking bays have been provided.

Mr Haley emphasised: "The bollards represent less than three per cent of the spend on Thompson Street, and 0.33 per cent of the £9 million regeneration funds.

"What would the cost of the 'normal' bollards have been? Not a great deal different, I would suggest.

"How one councillor can appear by them with his thumbs down when we are hoping to encourage investors into the

town, only he can explain."

Mr Haley said he was concerned that the current debate was deflecting attention from a more important long-term issue for the town.

"What we should be focussing on is that in 15 months time, the current regeneration status comes to an end."

He said that the "small minority" of critics would be better advised to devote their energies to something more productive, such as identifying new funding streams for the town's future.

In his role as chairman of Pride in Barry, Mr Haley, played a significant role in bringing the current £9 million to the town, which included arguing the town's case, along with the late Gareth Howe, at the Welsh Assembly on a number of occasions.

(CONTINUED
ON PAGE 5)



The festive season has well and truly arrived and at All Saints Church in Wales Primary School recently, a fun-packed Christmas fair was held. (See next week for a report and photos).

LOCAL MAN HIT BY TRAIN DIES

A MAN died when he was hit by a train in the early hours of Thursday morning in Barry.

A British Transport Police (BTP) spokesman said: "BTP officers were called to the line at 5.41am close to Cadoston railway station on Thursday, December 1, after a train driver reported striking a man on the line.

"Officers from BTP and South Wales Constabulary, together with local paramedics, attended.

"A man with severe injuries was discovered at the scene and was attended to by paramedics. He was taken to hospital by ambulance but was pronounced dead at 8.40am."

The driver of the 5.20am Cardiff Central to Barry Island service reported the incident.

Speaking on Monday (December 5) the spokesman said: "I can confirm that the man has been formally identified as John Alan Partridge, who was aged 44 and from the Barry area.

"A post-mortem examination on December 2, confirmed there are no suspicious circumstances and that Mr Partridge suffered injuries consistent with being hit by a train.

"There does not appear to be any third-party involvement and the incident is now being treated as non-suspicious."

A file is being prepared for the Coroner.

Anyone with any information which they believe can assist police is asked to contact British Transport Police on Freephone 0800 40 50 40, quoting incident number 62 of 01/12/2011.

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SANTA LIGHTS UP RAINBOWS



THE Llantwit Major Rainbows, Brownies and Guides would like to thank everyone who attended their Christmas fair on Saturday, November 26 at the Llantwit Hall.

The children were especially pleased by the visit from Father Christmas and they are all now eagerly awaiting his arrival on Christmas Eve.

Santa said that he was

sure that he would be able to get most things on their Christmas lists.

We would also like to thank members of the Trefoil Guild for helping on the day by manning the stalls and serving tea and coffee. All the proceeds will go towards the renovation of the Guide Hut.

We are always looking for volunteers, so if any readers would like the chance to have fun, make friends and learn new skills, telephone 01446 795076.

Jan Smith
Llantwit Major

Scouts' Christmas post deadline...

THE Scouts' Christmas post in Cowbridge is now being sorted and the last posting date has passed.

This year, the number of cards has increased. Thank you to everyone who uses it.

Unfortunately, there are over 100 cars which we are unable to deliver because they are out of our delivery area.

These include Pontyclun, Bridgend, Porthcawl, Caerphilly, Abergavenny, Gloucester and even Liverpool.

If the people who posted these would like to contact me, they can collect them from the Scout Hall

David Weber
Unit assistant

LOCATION OF CREMATORIUM?

OH dear, Jeremy Clarkson should be setting up a firing squad for one GEM reporter!

A big story last week 'New crematorium is officially opened' and I read it three times to check that I had not missed something – but despite all the detail that was published, the most important item was missing – where is it? The Vale is a substan-

tial area and the story should have included its location.

Michael Smith,
Llantwit Major.
FOOTNOTE: Oops, point taken! It is, of course, at Port Road East, Barry and has featured in numerous previous reports in *The GEM*.

Mind you, we think it is Jeremy Clarkson who should be worrying about a firing squad, given his recent public utterances!

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We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

Town's Rotary Fireworks Fiesta: 'we have always thanked our sponsors'

WE at the Barry Rotary Club pride ourselves on the principle of service to, and the avoidance of, confrontation with our fellows in the Barry community.

That being said, we entirely refute the erroneous and inaccurate comments made by Councillor Stenstrom in his letter last week regarding our annual Fireworks Fiesta.

In particular, we have – without fail – over the years, made it our business to gratefully acknowledge the financial assistance of our sponsors.

In February, we responded to an invitation by Barry Town Council to apply for grant assistance towards the event.

It transpired that the council were unable to assist. So be it – we still feel that despite this and through the generosity of others we have previously acknowledged, we were able to stage one of our most spectacular and enjoyable displays, without charging any admission fee.

We would like to record our gratitude to the public for their generous response to our appeal for donations.

Carl Kerr,
Chairman, fireworks committee and Hon. Secretary of Barry Rotary Club

SHOW THE VALE YOUR TALENT!

FIRST of all, thank you to all your readers who got in touch after my previous letter to *The GEM* – last week the Tuppenny Theatre Company was born!

We had a fair amount of interest, but still need more younger members in their 20s/30s/40s – and a lot more men!

You don't need to have experience, just a

willingness to take part and learn. I want to give people who never thought they could act, the chance to learn in a non-judgemental environment!

Come out of your shells and show the Vale what you can achieve!

You can contact me on 07890 463955 or 01446 750295, or at hamishhamilton@msn.com.

Hamish Hamilton,
Tuppenny Theatre Company.

Wizard performance!

LAST week we attended an excellent performance of Bryn Hafren School's production of the *Wizard of Oz* at Barry Memorial Hall. We should like to congratulate all those involved and to thank them for an enjoyable evening.

Couns Janice Charles and Katherine Kemp

Dog fouling: an absolute disaster

FURTHER to letters on dog fouling recently, and references to Broadway, Cowbridge – good luck to anyone walking from the junction of Broadway/St Athan Road to Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.

Outside mine and my neighbour's home at the beginning of Broadway, is an absolute disaster – with at least six deposits, which increase towards the school.

My children and I have to walk past this each morning and afternoon to/from school and

work. Most disturbingly, children who get off buses and others who walk along here, are stepping into the road to avoid the mess, which could result in serious injury or a fatality.

Perhaps through The GEM, police could confirm that they could be summoned if a dog owner committing an offence is reprimanded by a member of the public.

Also, the position should someone effect a citizen's arrest; in the unlikely event of actual catching an offender. (Name and address supplied)

'Drop-in centre does fantastic job in Barry'

I AM writing this letter in support of the drop-in centre, formerly at Dunlin Court, but now in place at the Castleland Community Centre.

I have nothing but praise for everyone on the DIC team – and they are all volunteers, including Eileen Moore, manager of the DIC.

The events and activities they put on for the community are fantastic. An after-school club is held on a Friday night, again run by volunteers. It keeps the children entertained and off the streets.

My grandchildren attend every event and activity the DIC organises.

I have helped out by

volunteering on the Fun Day that is held on the last Saturday in August every year, and various other events.

The DIC staff are all really helpful and friendly.

Christmas is a fun time for all on Thompson Street estate, with a Christmas carol concert and a Christmas meal for the elderly.

The carol concert comes complete with a Santa, who gives the children on the estate a present.

Once again, I would like to praise all at the DIC for doing such a fantastic job all year round.

I hope they get everyone's support in order to carry on with what they want to achieve.

Y Turner,
Barry.

An open invite to GEM readers

I WOULD like to remind GEM readers about the open Christmas event being held at Art Central Gallery on Thursday, December 15, from 7pm-9pm – to celebrate another successful year of talks and exhibitions.

For those who do not know, Art Central Friends is a voluntary organisation which exists to support the Art Central Gallery at the Old Town Hall on King Square, Barry.

We organise talks which support current exhibitions and we would certainly welcome new members.

This event is open to everyone living in the Vale and beyond, who may be interested to come and see the new exhibition by Vale of Glamorgan Artists (VOGA) and hear them talk about their work and answer questions.

Drinks and festive nibbles will be available to aid conviviality. Monika Jones Barry

'Library service will be restored'

I WAS interested in the letter by one of your correspondents agreeing with my colleague Coun Curtis's comments about the unacceptable cuts to the mobile library service imposed by the Vale Council's Tory cabinet.

I am pleased that this has been supported and just for the record, I would confirm that if Labour takes control of the Vale Council after the next elections in May 2012, we will indeed be reviewing and reinstating the provision of a mobile library service.

'SSAFA IS THERE TO HELP YOU'

WITH thoughts of Remembrance still in our minds, now is a good time for those who have served in our military to remind themselves that help is there if they need it.

There are probably many people reading this who are struggling and don't realise the level of support available to them through SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) Forces Help.

Some may not think that they are eligible for the support, or don't like the idea of turning to a charity for help.

However, it only takes one day of service to access our help and that includes direct

ice. The correspondent calls for the cabinet to be abolished, but as this would not be easily achieved without a very long legal process, I will also confirm that if the Vale Council is Labour-controlled, we would also be cutting the size of the Council cabinet by 30 per cent, making savings of around £52,000.

That saving should go some way to helping to pay for the reinstated service, along with other services that need protecting. Coun Neil Moore, Vale County Borough Council (Leader, Labour Group, and councillor for the Cadoc ward)

dependants, as well as those who undertook military service.

There may be some people who do not like to accept charitable help, but the truth is that those who served in our armed forces have earned the help.

SSAFA has five volunteers in the Bridgend area. All are trained to provide assistance with a range of problems, including mobility scooters, home adaptations, training and housing.

Rather than suffer alone, I would ask anyone who has served and feels that SSAFA can be of assistance to them by calling 01656 785435.

Help is there waiting for you. You have earned it.

Dave Davies
Secretary
SSAF Forces Help
Bridgend

'Thank you to Filco'

I WOULD like to express my appreciation to the management and staff at Filco for all their hard work in keeping the store open during the recent extensive work at Llantwit.

Merry Christmas to you all and a prosperous New Year.

Margaret Morgan,
Llantwit Major.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL DECEMBER 15)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
08 Thur	04.44	8.8	17.05	8.9
09 Fri	05.20	9.1	17.43	9.2
10 Sat	06.02	9.4	18.21	9.3
11 Sun	06.35	9.4	18.57	9.4
12 Mon	07.12	9.6	19.31	9.5
13 Tues	07.47	9.7	20.09	9.4
14 Wed	08.26	9.6	20.48	9.3
15 Thur	09.08	9.5	21.31	9.1

While *The GEM* makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

'Pumphouse should be a community building' insists local councillor

AN independent councillor, who wants Barry's historic Pumphouse to become a community building, says he is dismayed that it will be put on the open market.

Coun Richard Bertin said he wanted the people of the town to be consulted over its future, but that had been rejected by Conservative councillors at a special meeting of the council's economy and environment committee meeting last week.

Coun Bertin said: "I am extremely disappointed that the people are being let down again by not allowing them to have a say on this iconic building."

He said the ruling Conservative group was wrong to market the building on a 999-year

lease without full consideration being given to its future.

A total of £1.4 million has been spent refurbishing the exterior of the Pumphouse.

Coun Bertin said that independent, Labour and Plaid Cymru councillors believed the building could become a heritage centre. However, the Conservatives voted for it to go on the open market.

Coun Bertin said: "I believe people would prefer to see this building kept as a community building and something that could be used to promote the history of the town as once the world's biggest exporter of coal."

"Over the years, we have lost so much in terms of our history and I know the people of the

town would love to see a cinema and a museum, but they have been denied this.

"It is just not right that the biggest town in Wales does not have either and I will not give up until these are delivered for us."

Coun Bertin said he hoped that a new council in May would "deliver what the people of Barry want".

Mr Aldon Grisdale, a local businessman and historian who gave evidence at the meeting, said he felt let down by councillors who wanted the building marketed.

"It is about time they listened to the needs of the town and not just want to quickly sell everything off," he said.

Coun Neil Moore, who represents the Cadoc ward, argued that marketing of the building was happening with "undue haste" and he regretted the fact that the council would surrender control over it.

Coun Moore said: "We wanted the council to ask the people of Barry what they wanted it to be used for."

"We considered it might be suitable for a cinema or a heritage centre or a combination of

the two and called it into the council's scrutiny committee to try and get the committee to recommend that the cabinet should reconsider their decision."

Coun Moore said it was regrettable that the committee "refused to listen to the argument of councillors and the members of the public who aired their views in a very good meeting".

He added: "The committee rejected all the arguments and agreed with the Vale cabinet to market the building, at more ratepayers' expense, without having any idea what the people of Barry would like to see there."

"So much for scrutiny in the Vale!"

'BEST OUTCOME'

The director of environmental and economic regeneration at the council, Mr Rob Quick, insisted the council was committed to securing an appropriate end use for the Pumphouse, and this had been made clear at the meeting.

He said the £1.4m renovation demonstrated the council's commitment to its future.

Mr Quick explained that the council was working in a legal part-

nership with the Welsh Government.

"After careful consideration, the council and Welsh Government have jointly agreed to market the property as widely as possible on the basis of a 999 year lease."

"The Welsh Government's view is the marketing process put forward by the council 'is the most appropriate way to proceed, given the need to achieve the best possible regeneration outcomes from the Pumphouse scheme'."

The cabinet member for economic development and regeneration, Coun Rhodri Traherne added: "I have the highest respect for Coun Bertin, but I regret to say that either he has failed to understand what the council intends to do or else he has deliberately chosen to ignore the facts."

"The council has made it abundantly clear on a number of occasions that it will market the Pumphouse to the widest possible range of potential end users, including cinema operators and heritage groups."

"The Labour Government in Cardiff Bay is fully supportive of the council's approach."

Shock as dog found with a broken jaw

A Staffordshire bull terrier which was left with its jaw broken in two places, must have experienced a "considerable force" to sustain such an injury, vets have said.

The two-year-old dog was found inside a covered drain on Castleland Street, Barry, at around 11.30pm last Wednesday (November 30).

Neighbours who heard the dog's cries had to use a crowbar to lift the cover on the drain to free the sodden animal.

She was then taken to Maesglas Vets in Bridgend for emergency treatment.

Despite initially being fed by syringe, the dog is struggling to eat liquidised food. She is facing six weeks of rehabilitation before vets are able to rule out the need for an operation.

Bridgend vet Candice Cadwallader said: "She has broken her right mandible; the back part of her right lower jaw. We tend to see broken jaws more often in smaller animals."

"She's had some sort of trauma. It would have had to be a considerable force to break the jaw of a Staffie."

Despite her obvious suffering, the dog is



Comforting arms for the badly-injured bull terrier.

managing to eat and is bright and friendly: "It's going to be a long haul until her jaw is healed," added Candice. "There's no guarantee that it's going to sort itself out."

The dog was wearing a black leather collar with brass-type square studs.

Vale Council dog warden, Caroline Cowan, is appealing to anyone who saw how the dog came to be in the drain, or saw someone with the animal, to contact the council or the RSPCA.

She said: "The people who found her, saw two

men walking up Kingsland Street, near the Track 2000 building, with a dog on a lead."

"It's such a brutal injury. She must have been in a lot of pain. She will need intensive recuperation. We are appealing for information about how this dog became injured. We don't usually see this kind of injury to animals in the Vale."

• Anyone with information can contact the dog warden on 01446 700111, or the RSPCA cruelty line on 0300 1234 999.

YOUNG TORIES

VALE Conservatives recently selected Barry residents Leighton Rowlands, Gillian Bruce and Lewis Davis to contest the Cadoc ward at next May's council elections.

Leighton (22) and Lewis (18), both of whom attended the local Boys' Comprehensive School, stated that: "It is a real privilege to have been selected. It shows that the Vale Conservatives really want to reach out to all age groups."

Gillian added: "I am delighted to be selected again to fight Cadoc ward. With Leighton and Lewis, we make a very strong team."

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Chicken/Lamb Tikka£5.75
Garlic Murgh Tikka£5.95
Chicken/Lamb Shashlik£6.85
King Prawn Shashlik£7.95
Mughal Lamb Chops£6.50
Paneer Tikka (V)£5.75
Sizzling Grill Platter£7.95

VEGETARIAN DISHES

Milioni Sabzi Handi (V)£4.50

Sabzi Masala (V) (N)£4.50
Paneer Pasanda (V) (N)£4.50
Sabzi Paneer Jalfrez (V) (N)£4.50

SIDE DISHES

Palak Paneer£2.30
Aloo Gobi£2.25
Aloo Palak£2.25
Palak Bhaji£2.25
Aloo Baingan£2.25
Mushroom Bhaji£2.25
Bhendi Bhaji£2.25
Aloo Zeera£2.25
Chana Masala£2.25
Tarka Daal£2.25
Chips£1.50

RICE DISHES

Plain Rice£1.70
Pulao Rice£1.90
Balti Rice£2.60
Machli Pulao£2.75
Saag Pulao£2.35
Lemon Pulao£2.35
Garlic Pulao£2.35
Mughlai Pulao£2.85
Keema Pulao£2.35
Mushroom Pulao£2.35
Special Pulao£2.35

NAN BREADS

Plain Nan£1.70
Tikka Nan£2.00
Peshwari Nan£1.85
Garlic or Cheese Nan£1.85
Keema Nan£1.85
Tandoori Roti£1.50
Paratha£1.95
Chapati£1.00

ALL TIME CLASSICS

Chicken£4.90
Lamb£5.10
Prawn£5.25
King Prawn£7.50
Chicken Tikka£5.70
Vegetable£3.95
Korma, Curry/Madras/Vindaloo, Bhuna, Dupiaza, Rogan, Pathia, Danksak, Saag, Chana, Balti.

) Chilli rating (N) Contains Nuts (V) Vegetarian

'Help us to create a community orchard' townsfolk are urged

STAFF at the Porthkerry Country Park in Barry, are hoping local people will help them create a community orchard.

The Vale Council's ranger service at the park has received a grant from the Countryside Council for Wales to buy 35 fruit trees, and they would like volunteers to turn up on Sunday, December 11 at 1.30pm to help plant the orchard.

The trees will be planted on about an acre of land, filling a gap in the initial tree planting

scheme. The orchard will be a mixed orchard of half standard fruit trees, including apples, pears, plums and damsons.

Half standard trees grow to about 15ft in span and about 10ft high.

It will take around four or five years for the trees to fruit and 15-20 years for them to mature. Trees have been sourced from existing orchards and reputable nurseries in the south Wales area.

Park ranger, Mel Stewart, said: "The idea is to create a sense of communal ownership of the orchard by including

a diverse range of local people, inviting their hands-on involvement with the creation of the orchard.

"Everyone who turns up on Sunday will receive a hot drink and mince pie for their efforts."

The orchard will be open to everyone walking through the park and once the trees have been established, all fruit will be available for the local community.

The orchard will also help improve the biodiversity of the woodlands by providing food for birds, mammals and lots of insects.



Camille Danielson (12) and Rebecca Moore (13) both from Barry, clearing space for the orchard.

Busy autumn for Rotary Club of Barry



All smiles during a busy Rotary schedule.

IT has been a very busy autumn for members of the Rotary Club of Barry, who have supported the annual visually handicapped bowls competition in Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, as well as organising a most enjoyable 'Pork in the Park' barbecue evening at the Welsh Hawking Centre, Barry, for members and friends.

Speakers at club meetings held on Thursday evenings in the Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry have included Roger Donkin who gave an illustrated talk on Antarctica; Lara Cowpe from the Teenage Cancer Trust; Michele Fitzpatrick (Vale Council) on matters relating to waste disposal; John Cann on 'How the Welsh Snaffled the English throne!' and Jennifer Hobbs-Roberts.

The quiz team reached the semi-finals of the district inter-club quiz in the Mount Sorrel Hotel, narrowly losing to the Rotary Club of Dinas Powys.

Several members also attended the district conference in Torquay, enjoying a relaxing weekend of fellowship.

Following on from the very successful Fireworks Fiesta on November 5 at Barry Island, members joined forces with the Inner Wheel Club of Barry to host an international lunch in the Memorial Hall, to raise funds for international emergency projects, including the purchase of aqua boxes and shelter boxes.

The most recent fundraising event was a 'Laughter Lunch', attended by more than 80 members and guests at Cottrell Park Golf Club.

After a three-course lunch, entertainment was provided by comedian and singer Nicky Smiles who had his audience in stitches!

A grand raffle and auction brought this most successful event to a close.

Proceeds went to the Rotary International Eradication of Polio project which is supported by Bill Gates. JO

A right Royal (Navy) raconteur!

ON THE evening of November 17, in the Philip John Community Room at Barry Library, Mr Alan Higgins of Bridgend, originally from Barry, gave a fascinating and entertaining talk about his life and times in the Royal Navy during the Second World War.

He recounted being on the cruiser HMS Edinburgh when she was torpedoed by a U-456 and eventually

sank. He also recounted sea stories a-plenty of his experiences on landing craft in the Mediterranean and off Omaha Beach in June 1944.

"What a raconteur!" was the verdict of one the audience.

The event, organised by Friends of Barry History, was the first of its kind and, hopefully, not the last! GB

NEWS FROM THE BARRY MEN'S FORUM

ROY'S AMAZING VINTAGE CAR TRIP!

THE recent achievements of certain magnificent men in their vintage machines were relayed by our speaker, Mr Roy Williams, at our last meeting.

He and his motoring partner – a chicken farmer – had bought (for £25) a bundle of Riley parts and had assembled them into a superbly functioning vintage vehicle.

This, against all odds, they entered for the punishing 2007 anniversary Peking to Paris rally.

Roy fascinated members of the Forum by showing films and relating many of the adventures he and his partner shared together as they worked their way across Asia towards their goal of Paris.

Before they started they found that, although the body was complete, it still lacked a suitable engine. They finally found a two and a half litre overhead camshaft engine of the era, which cost them £1,500 and which they had to assemble, as it was also in bits.

After this, an MOT had to be organised and passed. The journey, together with the spares and provisions that had to be obtained, took a huge amount of planning, but finally their vintage Riley was ready with another 140 priceless cars assembled at the Great Wall of China for departure. Conditions were to prove so testing that only 40 finally reached Paris.

Moving through China and into Mongolia, they soon left the comfort of tarmac roads and found themselves travelling across trackless wastes and soft sand. Roy was well prepared and suffered few breakdowns in the hostile conditions.

He informed us that when these did

happen, local garages would improvise and make repairs without ever accepting payment for all their hard work.

It was quite incredible and totally unexpected. This happened in some of the poorest parts of Mongolia and Russia.

The oldest car on the rally was a 1908 Mercedes. All were worth a great deal of money and many had very wealthy owners. One Greek magnate was driving his expensive Bentley across Asia when it needed a replacement part.

He had this flown in from Switzerland by private helicopter and the Bentley continued its run. At one point, seemingly alone in the Gobi desert, Roy and his companion found hovering over them some vultures who seemed to be taking a close interest in their progress.

Their hopes that their engine would continue to run sweetly intensified.

Despite delays caused by gearbox problems in Mongolia, they make up for lost time by making valiant efforts through the blinding dust and heat, and on reaching Lithuania found they were in seventh place.

Huge crowds turned out to see the magnificent machines as they drove into the streets of Paris, and Roy and his companion achieved both 10th place and a gold medal. They raised £25,000 for charity and found they had driven nearly 14,000 miles.

At the next meeting on December 8, Frank Wally will speak on 'Scott of the Antarctic.'

Meetings are held at the 10.30am on Thursdays in the hall of the United Reformed Church in Barry. New members are very welcome. For further details, contact 02920 594881.

MAC TANNER

THE 'WINOS' ARE IN NEED OF AN AGENT!

RHOOSE WI met at the Village Hall, Stewart Road, on December 1 when president Jenny Reed welcomed members and visitors to the Christmas and anniversary party.

Business was kept to a minimum so that everyone could enjoy the social side of the evening as soon as possible.

The traditional rendi-

tion, with actions, of the 'Twelve Days of Christmas' was great fun and started the festivities with gusto.

A delicious supper followed, with sandwiches provided by member Glenys Watson and cakes and savouries by other members.

Entertainment was provided by the WINOS, the WI's own drama group, who performed a play written by one of the cast.

It told the story of the Nativity as it might have appeared to ordinary people living in Judaea at that time.

Barbara Goodway in her vote of thanks, remarked that the group goes from strength-to-

strength and will soon need the services of an agent!

The evening ended with the presentation of the 2011 Competition Cup to Elsa Jones, with Joy Grant as runner-up.

Members were reminded that there will be no lunch or skittles clubs during the month of December; these will begin again in January.

The next meeting will take place at 7.30pm on January 5 at the Community Hall, Stewart Road, Rhosee.

The speaker, Mrs Anne Rogers, will give the second part of her talk on the life of Charlotte Guest.

New members and visitors welcome.

Festive services

CROSSWAY and Saint David's Methodist Churches in Barry will hold festive services as follows:

Sunday December 11: Saint David's (9.45am) and Crossway (11am), Holy Communion for Advent.

December 18: Crossway (11am), worship including Nativity presentation by Pukka. Crossway and Saint David's (6pm), nine lessons and carols by candlelight.

December 19: Saint David's (4-5pm) messy church christingle for children and adults!

December 20: Crossway (11.30am-12 noon), Shoppers' Christmas service.

At 2pm there will be a Crossway Nativity treasure hunt for young children.

Christmas Eve: Saint David's (11.30pm) Candlelight midnight service with Holy Communion.

Christmas Day worship at Saint David's (9.45am), and at Crossway (10am).

For more information contact the ministers – Rev Peter Taylor & Deacon Samantha Taylor 01446 406262 or email deaconsam@live.co.uk.

NEW CONES WILL TACKLE SCHOOL'S PARKING PROBLEMS

GREEN 'no-parking' cones have been introduced in a school in the centre of Barry as part of a concerted attempt to solve the issue of illegal and inconsiderate parking at the beginning and end of the school day.

A police spokesman said: "A number of letters have previously been sent to motorists warning them of the dangers of inconsiderate parking and a substantial amount of fixed penalty notices have also been issued to vehicles and drivers who have continued to break the law.

"Complaints have continued to come in from concerned parents, so PC Ceri Western recently met the head teacher, Mr Kevin Law, to discuss the introduction of the 'Green Cone Scheme'. This scheme has been implemented successfully in many areas

across the UK, and in the Vale.

"After the meeting, letters were sent out by the school advising parents that this scheme was to be introduced immediately and green cones will be placed outside the school gates on the yellow zig zags at the start and end of the school day to reduce the amount of traffic parking directly outside the school.

PC Western said: "We have received very positive feedback from a lot of parents telling us that they feel safer crossing the road with their children as the area outside the school gates is now clear and safe for children to cross."

Romilly school caretaker, Mr Paul Adams, added: "Motorists shouldn't be breaking the law in the first place, they should abide by the road markings and traffic legislation. If putting the cones out each day will prevent a child being at risk crossing the road then it is a great idea."

Over-60s join in a festive get-together



ABERTHAW Power Station supported the Rhose Over-60s Club with a donation towards their Christmas dinner held at the Green Dragon in Llanccadle recently, when 25 members enjoyed a three-course meal in good company and friendly surroundings.

ABOVE:
Rhouse Over-60s Club enjoy Christmas dinner at the Green Dragon, Llanccadle.

Age Concern's fayre is a great success in Barry

AGE CONCERN in Barry recently held a successful Christmas fayre in the Civic Offices.

Despite poor weather the event was well supported. It was opened by the Mayor of the Vale, Coun John Clifford, who commended Age Concern, saying how well it served Barry.

There were a range of attractive stalls and a raffle. Barry Ladies Choir sang a delightful selection of carols during the fayre, and many guests joined in.

The event raised the remarkable figure of £380, which will be used for refurbishment of the senior health shop in Barry. GF

Read your GEM online - visit www.barry-today.co.uk and register for free

PENARTH IS NOT THE 'HIGH SPEED BROADBAND' AREA IT SHOULD BE'

– claims a local councillor

THE Mayor of Penarth has launched an attack on British Telecom for what he says is "positive discrimination" in selecting a number of areas of the town to miss out on a high speed broadband provision, while other areas have been provided with its Infinity Service.

In a hard-hitting statement, Coun Anthony Ernest claimed the company's expensive advertisements portrayed Penarth as a high-speed-connected town, but that did not tell the full story.

He claimed that there were districts that have been "by-passed", for what he considers is an essential service for business and residential users.

However, when The GEM spoke to British

Telecom, the company said that it had specifically pointed out in August 2010 that not everyone would receive the service initially, due to "a variety of technical and commercial reasons".

Coun Ernest said the circumstances in which some people in the town had the faster service and others did not had come to his attention when he decided to apply for it himself.

He explained: "I only found out the reality of the situation recently when I considered installing the much-vaunted high-speed service in my home, only to be advised by BT's online system that my telephone line could not be provided with the service."

"Having seen numerous new fibre-optic cabinets being installed around the town over the months, I thought that this was just a mistake; but when I eventually

managed to contact a senior official in BT – no small feat – I was advised that I was indeed correct, and that the 'cabinet' serving my property had not been wired up for the service!

"BT say that their reasoning was based on various factors, such as number of homes passed, current internet usage, cost of upgrade and likely return on investment."

"This cabinet did not fulfil Openreach's criteria and therefore a decision was made not to upgrade it."

Coun Ernest continued: "I was completely taken aback by the reply I received this week. I suspect most other residents and business people in Penarth would wrongly assume from BT adverts, which carefully

portray the Millennium Stadium, the WMC and Penarth Pier as being linked by Infinity, that their service is available to everybody in these areas."

"Clearly, I was mistaken, and BT have been less than open about the deliberate omission of major areas of Penarth

for their likely return on investment."

He added: "I have some knowledge of these matters, and I know that in my case the cabinet serving my property in central Penarth also serves a considerable area around the town centre and numerous large properties and apartments."

"That all of these customers cannot obtain high-speed broadband, while others in more fortunate areas are able to do so, is clearly discriminatory action by BT Openreach."

"More importantly, it denies a considerable number of Penarthians fast internet access for both work and pleasure purposes – now so important in this electronic era."

Coun Ernest said he would continue to fight the town's case for a proper broadband provision.

"I do not intend letting this issue rest, and will be taking it up with the Opposition Leader in the Welsh Government, as well as the Director of BT in Wales, Anne

Beynon."

Coun Ernest invited local people without the service to contact him with the details at his email address (AMErnest@valeofglam-organ.gov.uk) and adding their street address in the subject line.

A spokesman for BT pointed out that the company was looking at alternative ways of helping customers who did not have the new service.

He said: "Penarth went live for super-fast fibre broadband back in July 2010 and it is available to the overwhelming majority of people in the town."

"More than 11,000 homes and businesses in the town can take advantage of speeds of up to 40 Mb/s, with plans to roughly double that to 80Mb/s next year."

"However, for technical and commercial reasons in many towns and cities, the service may not currently be available to some customers and we are actively looking at alternative solutions for those locations."



Brenda Rees, Nicky Jones and Bette Sim with Nicky's son, Scott Burrows-Jones, who is on leave from Afghanistan, and was keen to see how well the pre-Christmas packing was going.

'WE'RE THINKING OF THOSE IN AFGHANISTAN'

– say volunteers

A dedicated group of Barry women have posted an astonishing 4,130 shoeboxes of goodies and essentials to British Servicemen and women in Afghanistan.

This week, as they met up at the house of Bette Sim, to pack even more shoeboxes, they welcomed Scott Burrows-Jones, a former pupil of Barry Comprehensive School, who has been serving with the British Army in Helmand province.

Scott said: "The shoeboxes give the troops a real boost."

"When you are away from home, you miss your creature comforts and they go some way to making things more bearable."

Scott's mother, Nicky Jones, is another shoebox volunteer, and the group is completed by Brenda Rees and Kaye Watts.

Bette and Brenda are foster carers and part of the reason they began their support for the troops was because they were aware of how many people from the care system serve in the Armed Forces.

Brenda told The GEM: "There is a deprivation of basics out there, and care leavers often have no family to send them things."

Bette explained: "We started sending the shoeboxes two years ago September just gone. So far we have sent 4,130 and we've got another 70 ready to go."

"One reason I wanted to get involved was because my son-in-law was out in Afghanistan."

Over the months, the ladies have had lots of feedback from Servicemen and women grateful for the parcels.

Brenda pledged: "We will continue as long as our boys and girls are there."

There are a number of ways people can sup-

port the Armed Forces: Wrist bands can be purchased at Roy's Toys in Cadoxton, at the Hub Cafe, and Clemwood Stores on Dock View Road. People can also make donations for the shoebox appeal at Morrisons supermarket at the Waterfront.

The following items would be much appreciated by Service people:

Toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gel, roll on deodorant, spicy sauces, pot noodles (very popular!), tubes of concentrated soup, cup-a-soups, chocolates – all forms! wet wipes, shaving foam – not aerosol types, hand gels, such as the alcohol type, cotton wool buds,

scrunchies – for showering, lip balms, moisturisers, sanitary towels, hats and gloves (it gets very cold in Afghanistan at this time of year), drinking sachets, such as the chocolate or coffee type.

People don't have to wrap items because the volunteers have to sign a declaration of what has been included in the shoeboxes.

The volunteers say that it is also a nice touch to send a Christmas card or letter which can be included in a shoebox – "Knowing that people 'back home' care about how they are, gives the Service people a real boost."

Food vouchers are stolen in Barry burglary

DETECTIVES are appealing for information, following a burglary at Porthkerry Road, Barry, when thieves broke into a mid-terrace dwelling via an insecure rear door, overnight on November 22.

Stolen was a quantity of Park Shopping food vouchers with values of £5 and £10.

An attempt was also made to steal a silver-coloured MG ZT model sports car from outside the premises.

Detective Constable

Lee Davies of Barry CID said: "The Park vouchers can be used in numerous recognised stores in order to buy food."

"I am appealing to local traders in Barry who may participate in the voucher scheme, to keep any eye out for the vouchers, and in particular, for individuals who try and pass the vouchers when they would normally use cash"

Anyone with information should contact police on 101, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Magical show by the Changing Scene

CHANGING Scene Theatre Company held a fantastic show at Barry Arts Hall – Musically enjoyed by young and old, who showed their appreciation with constant applause.

The show included tributes to well known Broadway shows, modern musicals and cult TV series *Glee*.

The whole cast in their new Changing Scene Theatre uniforms danced and sang their hearts out ranging in age from two years to 16.

It was produced and choreo-

graphed by Emma Lee Wagner.

Changing Scene Theatre Company will be entertaining friends and neighbours Christmas party next week at Cwm Talwg Community Centre.

Dancers Elinor Robinson, Amy Bedford, Chloe Davies, Beth Murphy, Nicole Deol and Demi Lee Gulliver have been invited to take part in the Stan Stennet pantomime *Billy and Bonzo meet Dick Whittington* at The Beaufort Theatre in Ebbw Vale and Blaenavon Working Men's Theatre.

GAYE FIFIELD

Bollards: 'too many critics, not enough doers'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Mr Haley said: "Over the last few weeks, it appears to me that there are a small minority of critics who are getting a disproportionate amount of coverage."

"Unfortunately, it gives an impression of too many critics and not enough doers."

"Where were all these critics when Pride in Barry was fighting to get the regeneration funds in the first place?"

"It may seem harsh, but people should look at the bigger picture."

Mr Haley pointed out that the

Regeneration Board was making sure that there was a geographical spread of projects across the town, and that there were procedures in place to acknowledge properly submitted schemes.

He said: "If anyone believes they have submitted a scheme and have not had a response, then let the board know and we will investigate the matter."

Mr Haley said he remained optimistic that the town had a bright future: "I want to reassure the public of Barry that we are continuing to go out and talk to potential investors with a degree of success."

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Live Entertainment at the King William IV (The Billy)

over this Festive Season

Sunday 11th December 7pm-9pm

LYNETTE HILL Female Solo Vocalist

Saturday 17th December 9pm-11pm

GARY DAWKES Male Solo Vocalist

Sunday 18th December 7pm-9pm

ROB 'FROM OFF THE CUFF'

Male Solo Artist

Friday 23rd December 7pm onwards

JOHN & DANIELLE

Xmas Karaoke & Disco

Saturday 24th December 9pm-11pm

ALI DELGADO Female Solo Vocalist

Monday 26th December 7pm-9pm

PAIGE KENZIE Female Solo Vocalist

Friday 30th December 9pm-11pm

ELISA JONES Female Solo Artist

Saturday 31st December 7pm onwards

CABARET WITH ANTHONY

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Fun Quiz Every Wednesday 8.30pm

Start (Guaranteed £50 Prize)

Every Tuesday 8.15pm:

Nuts Poker League with Adrian

Every Thursday 8.15pm:

Redtooth Poker League with Mark

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Vale schools get mark of approval

SEVEN Vale secondary schools have been recognised for their efforts in preparing students for the world of work.

Barry Comprehensive School, Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School, Cowbridge Comprehensive School, St Cyres Comprehensive School, St Richard Gwyn Roman Catholic High School, Stanwell School and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg have all been given the Careers Wales Mark award – in recognition of the support they offer young people.

Awards were also received by Ashgrove School in Penarth, which provides special-

ist teaching and support for young people with autism and the Vale Key Stage 4 Pupil Referral Unit at Cowbridge Youth Centre, for young people not attending secondary school.

The award makes the Vale Council the first local authority in Wales to have all its mainstream secondary schools achieving the Careers Wales Mark.

The Cabinet member for education and lifelong learning with the Vale Council, Coun Tony Hampton, said: "This award is a clear demonstration that young people in the Vale are receiving the support they need to make realistic, informed decisions about their future."

Are you up for the Boxing Day swim?

THE Whitmore Bay Surf Life Saving Club is again holding its customary Boxing Bay swim this year.

The volunteer lifeguards will be taking to the water (and keeping an eye on the early morning swimmers).

Anyone planning to brave the winter waters should meet at the western shelter on Barry Island at 9.30am.

COUNCILLORS REPORT ON THE RHOOSE POINT LAND TRANSFER

'Vale Council has no intention of charging for repairs to system'

AS THE local ward members for Rhooose, we are extremely pleased to report the transfer of all land at Rhooose Point to the Vale of Glamorgan Council and progression of the adoption of all drainage and highways on the development.

The report considered by cabinet on this matter at our meeting of November 29, advised that all land is now transferred, it also gave officers the authority to progress the adoption of highways, surface water drainage and the sewage pumping station and pumping station rising main.

We are aware of some concerns expressed by residents that the report advised that costs or risks associated with the surface water drainage system, after highway adoption, would be borne proportionately by the council and residents.

The reason this statement was made is that the highways are not currently the responsibility of this council and will not be until they are adopted.

Therefore, as it currently stands, the council has no respon-

sibilities for the surface water drainage system.

All these liabilities lie with the residents or landowners. In adopting the highways the council has the potential to increase its liabilities by then, becoming responsible in part for the surface water drainage (as this is the system by which the highways drain).

In their report, officers had to make cabinet aware, that in taking their decision to progress highway adoption, this would be the case.

We would re-assure residents that, while our officers are progressing their adoption with Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water, the council has no intention of charging them for any repairs that may be required to the surface water drains.

We would also advise them that, as they were previously responsible for the surface water drains, the recent decision of cabinet does not increase their liability or cost risk in any way.

The report details a sum of £20,000, which is part of the £75,000 that the council currently hold for improvements on the development. This £20,000 will be used to fund all foul and surface water drainage liabilities on

the development until adoption of the full surface and foul water drainage systems by Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water.

I hope all Rhooose Point residents will agree that the recent transfer of all land on the development to the council, the adoption of the majority of the gravity foul sewers to Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water from October 1 this year, and the recent decision of cabinet to finally now progress highway and surface water adoption, represents major progress in the long history of these matters on the development.

The next stage for us as local members is to involve Rhooose Point residents in decisions on the future management arrangements for this most important area.

We also wish to consult them on the most appropriate use of the remaining £50,000 that we have earmarked for environmental improvements on the development.

To this end, we will shortly be providing all residents with a newsletter and asking them to attend a public meeting early in the New Year, where all relevant matters will be discussed.

Couns Gordon C. Kemp and Jeffrey W. James

The Glamorgan GEM is now on Facebook - find us at www.facebook.com/gemnews

FUNDING TO HELP RURAL SERVICES

A new initiative under Pride in our Services has been set up to provide a major boost to local and rural hubs, helping rural communities enhance or retain their basic services.

The Pride in Our Services – Rural Hubs scheme is offering grants of up to £40,000, to support local hubs or village service providers to set up and retain key services, improving availability and accessibility.

The scheme is one of six new funding programmes run by Creative Rural Communities, the Vale of Glamorgan's rural regeneration initiative. By working with rural communities to retain and enhance key services, Creative Rural Communities hopes to help sustain rural services and create vibrant community hubs.

Mari-Wyn Pivotti, Senior Rural Regeneration Officer at Creative Rural Communities, said: "We are seeing an increasing number of rural services, such as post offices, pubs and village shops, close down due to financial pressures. We're therefore hoping, with the help of the communities themselves, to diversify basic services, improve the availability and accessibility of key services, as well as create and sustain vibrant community hubs."

"A community hub will be dependant on the village or community...it could be a pub, village shop, village hall, church hall or even a local hairdresser. We've enlisted the help of Pub is The Hub, a not for profit rural pub advisor, to work specifically with pubs, leaving me to work with other community hubs. If you have an idea come to speak to us...we are open to ideas."

Creative Rural Communities is a regeneration and economic development initiative led by the Vale of Glamorgan Council in partnership with various public, private and voluntary sector organisations. The project is funded by the Vale of Glamorgan Council and through the Welsh Government's Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013 and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. As well as basic services there are funding programmes available for villages, heritage, farming, tourism and community grown food, which will strengthen communities and businesses in the rural Vale.

For further information contact: Mari-Wyn Pivotti on 01446 704637 or email mwepivotti@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

IS YOUR RURAL VILLAGE LOSING A SERVICE ?

PRIDE IN OUR SERVICES WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We're offering up to £40,000** to communities to develop new or diversification of existing service facilities (such as local pub or community space) to offer new services for the community.



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MAE YMFALCHIO YN EICH GWASANAETHAU EISIAU CLYWED WRTHO CHI!

Rydym yn cynnig i fyny at £40,000** i gymunedau i ddatblygu prosiectiau newydd neu arallgyleirio'r gwasanaethau presennol (fel tofarn leol neu le cymunedol) i gynnig gwasanaethau newydd i'r gymuned.

TO FIND OUT MORE CONTACT: I FFINDIO ALLAN MWY CYSYLLTWC A Mari-Wyn Pivotti 01446 704637 or mwepivotti@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Rural Vale of Glamorgan does not include the wards of Barry, Penarth or Llanelli. **Grants are available up to a maximum £40k or 70% of the total project cost, whichever is the lowest

*Ddw Bwrdd Morgannwg Wledig ddiol yn cynnwys y wardiau y Baf, Penarth a Llanelli. **Mae grantiau ar gael hyd at fwythum o £40k neu 70% o gyllwedd cost y prosiect, p'fai llyng yn'r isaf.

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'Wales must rise to meet the daunting economic challenge'

WHEN I opened the debate on the 2012/13 Budget for Growth and Jobs this week, I said that we were experiencing the most daunting economic and financial times for this country, and our responsibilities to support our economy and public services have never been so important.

In response to the Chancellor's Statement last week, the Institute of Fiscal Studies concluded that there has been no period like this in the past 60 years.

The grim figures given in the Chancellor's Statement spell it out: Unemployment levels are expected to rise over and above the 9 per cent we now face in Wales and will be consistently 1 per cent higher than previous forecasts suggested.

The situation has deteriorated in the past 10 months and the independent Office for Budgetary Responsibility estimated that growth will be less than 1 per cent this year and next - taking us perilously close to another recession.

The situation has worsened since I tabled

the draft Budget for next year in early October - but we have been proved right in our policy approach to present a Budget for Growth and Jobs which could help stimulate investment in the private sector, enhance our education and skills base - as well as support our most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and families.

The UK Government has now followed some of the initiatives we already announced earlier this year in our Programme of Government - to invest in early years, education and skills and our capital infrastructure.

We have already launched a new £75m Jobs Growth Wales scheme to fund training and jobs for 16 - 25 year olds to benefit 4,000 young people each year for 3 years.

We are also doubling the number of places in Flying Start with a further £55m investment, providing free childcare and parenting support for our most disadvantaged children and families.

Two weeks ago, I announced an additional £87m of capital investment including funding for 21st Century schools and social housing. Last week, I also announced an economic stimulus package of £38.9m, supported by the Welsh

ASSEMBLY NOTES



by Vale AM
JANE HUTT
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

Liberal Democrats, which includes funding for school and further education college refurbishment, funding for schemes such as Arbed, which makes homes more energy efficient in deprived areas, as well as supporting further social housing schemes. This all results in jobs in the construction industry and new opportunities for apprentices.

I also announced the extension of our Apprenticeships programme to provide another 1800 places over the next year. Edwina Hart announced an additional £55m of new investment in Welsh SMEs (small to medium sized businesses) to support business growth.

On Monday Leighton Andrews AM, our Education and Skills Minister, announced a £1.4 billion 21st Century

Schools programme of capital investment in school buildings across Wales, responding to local authorities proposals for the first wave of a long-term programme of investment.

The Vale of Glamorgan's proposals included Llantwit Major Comprehensive School, Ysgol Nant Talwg and Ysgol Dewi Sant. I look forward to visiting these schools later this month to discuss their plans and proposals.

Throughout the discussions about our Draft Budget over the past six weeks, there has been very strong agreement across the Senedd and with our partners in business, local government and the voluntary sector that we should be focussing on economic recovery to help cushion Wales from the current economic storm.

I also said this week that I believe it is our shared responsibility to address the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable people in Wales who are hardest hit by the economic crisis.

In addition, we committed to supporting the NHS and have increased our funding by £288m over the next three years remembering that 42 per cent of the Welsh budget is invested in the Health Service.

We have also responded to the view that we need to invest more in our poorest pupils in school. So I was very pleased to be able to announce a new grant - the Pupil Deprivation Grant - which will direct support to children who need it most in our schools.

Thanks to an additional £20 million we will be able to provide schools with £450 per child eligible for free school meals - benefiting 70,000 pupils the length and breadth of Wales - as a result of this policy which we agreed with the Welsh Liberal Democrats.

Our policy ambitions came together in support of this new grant, which will support schools in meeting the needs of these pupils, to help them tackle the link between attainment and disadvantage.

This has been a challenging Budget on so many levels. As a Government, we do not have all the answers to the many financial, social and economic problems we face - and, indeed, faced by businesses, families and young people in Wales - but we are seeking to intervene and use our funding wisely and responsibly, to revive our economy, support our local authorities and the NHS.

I hope and believe that is what the people of Wales would wish to endorse.

VALE PEOPLE FIRST's WORK WINS PRAISE AT THE AGM



ABOVE:
Jane Hutt AM with Vale People First and supporters at the annual meeting

TRUSTEE of Vale People First, Jane Hutt AM, recently spoke at its AGM at the Colcot Road campus of Cardiff and Vale College in Barry.

She recalled that Vale People First was started by Liz Davidson, with the first meetings held at the former Barry College and has since had a "huge impact on the lives of young people with learning disabilities."

The Vale AM commented: "I am proud to be a trustee of Vale People First and to speak at the AGM on the theme of health. We talked about the importance of healthy living and well being, recognising that access to free bus passes was vital to enable disabled people to get involved in activities, as well as getting access to training and employment. "Vale People First also plays an active

part in the Vale Youth Forum and a number of members were presented with certificates for their work at the Vale Youth Forum AGM on Monday night."

Vale schools achieve quality careers award

SEVEN Vale of Glamorgan secondary schools have been recognised for their efforts in preparing students for the world of work.

Barry Comprehensive, Bryn Hafren Comprehensive, Cowbridge Comprehensive, St Cyres Comprehensive, St Richard Gwyn Roman Catholic High School, Stanwell and Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg have all been given the Careers Wales Mark award - in recognition of the support they offer young people.

Awards were also received by Ashgrove School in Penarth, which provides specialist teaching and support for young people with autism and the Vale Key Stage 4 Pupil Referral Unit at Cowbridge Youth Centre, for young people not attending secondary

school. The award makes the Vale Council the first local authority in Wales to have all its mainstream secondary schools achieving the Careers Wales Mark.

Cabinet member for education and lifelong learning with the Vale Council, Coun Tony Hampton, said: "This award is a clear demonstration that young people in the Vale are receiving the support they need to make realistic, informed decisions about their future."

Chief Executive of Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale, Mark Freeman, added: "In these challenging times, good quality careers education and guidance and work-related learning is more important than ever if young people are able to achieve their full potential."



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From Holy Cross to the Millenium Stadium!

NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE MALE VOICE CHOIR

ON Friday, November 25, Cowbridge Male Voice Choir launched the annual Christmas Tree Festival at Holy Cross Church.

The church was beautifully decorated with many dressed and illuminated Christmas trees which had been sponsored by local businesses, organisations and individuals.

The church was filled to capacity, with several of the audience having to stand. The concert was attended by the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Andy Banks and by the Vale MP, Alun Cairns.

The choir was particularly pleased that their president, Iona Jones, was also able to attend, despite the demands of her busy schedule. The choir was supported by the choir of Llansannor Church in Wales School who sang two Christmas carols. Their performance was wonderful and they were a credit to themselves, their families and their teachers.

The concert, which began and ended with a congregational carol, was well received by a very appreciative audience.

Following the concert most choir members and many members of the audience adjourned to the Duke of Wellington public house for some well-earned lubrication and more singing, to round off a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

(See below for a review of the concert).

On Saturday, December 3, the choir was privileged to be part of the largest massed choir to sing at a rugby match in the Millennium Stadium. This was to commemorate the 130th anniversary of the Welsh Rugby Union.

There were around 1,700 assembled choristers from 44 choirs, drawn from the length

and breadth of Wales. The massed choir sang a short programme of traditional songs, including a 'Barbarians medley' and were accompanied by the superb Regimental Band of The Royal Welsh.

Although the Australians beat Wales 24 to 18, the spectators rose as one when Shane Williams scored his last-ever try for Wales in the closing minutes of the game.

AN EVENING TO CHERISH
THE GEM asked Olivia Obaid, who cheerfully admits that her love of male voice choirs borders on the obsessive, to write a review of the Holy Cross Concert:

NOVEMBER 24 might seem, to some people, a little early to start celebrating Christmas.

However, any opportunity to hear a male voice choir singing is, for me, an opportunity not to be missed.

Holy Cross Church was beautifully decorated with Christmas trees and although we arrived early, the church appeared almost full. This was obviously a very popular place to be.

I am not sure what I was expecting the choir to sing; it was after all a Christmas concert. However, with one glance at the programme, any slight doubt that I might have had as to the existence of Father Christmas quickly disappeared.

If I had been asked to compile a list of choral pieces I would like to hear being sung, this was it!

The concert started with the choir and the audience singing 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing'; a reminder of the

reason for this celebratory concert.

The choir then sung the first four pieces on the programme: 'I Bob Un Sy'n Ffyddlon', 'The Water is Wide', 'The Rose' and 'Gwahoddiad'.

I was particularly impressed with the choir's singing of the two Welsh hymns. Unlike some of the choirs I have heard singing in the Welsh Language, it pleased me to think that it was easy to believe that Welsh is the first language of all the members of the choir.

Llongyfarchiadau! The next item printed on the programme was the Llansannor Church in Wales School Choir. However, we were informed that their performance would be delayed as some members of the school choir had not yet arrived.

On being informed that their late arrival was due to the fact that they had rugby practice, everyone agreed that these young Welsh boys had their priorities right!

The Cowbridge Male Voice Choir continued to impress the audience with the singing of: 'Cwm Rhondda', 'You Are So Beautiful', 'The Lord Is My Shepherd' and 'Morte Criste'.

While I appreciate that every member of the audience would probably differ in their opinion as to what they would consider to be their favourite item of the concert, for me, the performance of Morte Criste (When I Survey The Wondrous Cross) was the highlight of the evening.

I am sure that Isaac Watts, who wrote the words of this hymn and Emrys Jones, the composer of the tune would have been delighted with the way it was sung by the choir.

I was also particularly impressed with the accompanist Sandra Williams' dramatic piano introduction to the last verse.

With the rugby training finished and the mud and blood washed

away, the Llansannor and Llanharry Church in Wales School Choir were now ready to perform.

It was a performance worth waiting for. The choir, with their conductor Mrs Sara Russell and accompanist Mrs Julie Morgan enthralled the audience with their singing of 'The Star Carol' and the most popular Christmas carol of all, 'Silent Night' I thought the beautiful carol Silent Night was improved on by being sung in Welsh: 'Tawel Nos'.

I am sure that the sight of these happy smiling children and their beautiful singing voices would have moved many of the members of the audience to shed a tear (and not just the parents!)

If Father Christmas was watching, then the children can expect an extra present this year!

The standard of choice of songs and the singing by the choir in the second half of the concert was equally impressive.

These included: 'You Raise me up' (sounding far better than the Westlife version!); 'Mae d'eisiau di bob awr' (sung in Welsh and English... hyfryd iawn!); 'She'; and 'O Gymru'.

At the end of the concert, Shelley Thomas Brown, the musical director, addressed the choir and the audience. There is no doubting the fact that the standard of the performance of the choir is a direct result of her leadership.

After the choir and the audience joined together in singing 'O Come all ye faithful', The Rev David Boulton, who had been an excellent compere, invited everyone to join in the singing of the Welsh National Anthem.

A perfect ending to a perfect evening, and a wonderful start to the Christmas celebrations.

MP's surgeries

VALE MP Alun Cairns will be holding two surgeries for advice and assistance on Friday December 9 at the following locations:

1.30pm - 3pm at The Heritage Centre, Llantwit Major, and 4pm - 5.30pm at Tesco, Stirling Road, Barry.

Anyone in the Vale is welcome to attend, but surgeries are very busy, and it is advisable to call 01446 403814 to make an appointment.

Road closures

STATION Road, Dinas Powys, near the junction with The Square.

Tyneydd Road, Barry, to junction with Llantwit Street.

PACT meetings

COURT PACT, 7pm, December 8 at Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, Barry.

DYFAN and GIBBONS DOWN joint PACT, 10am-12 noon on December 15 at Coast Cafe at side of Coastlands Church, Tennyson Road, Barry.

BUTTRILLS PACT, at 6.30pm, December 15 at the Philip John Community Room, Barry Library, Tynewydd Road.

CANCELLED: WENVOE PACT, December 12, to be rearranged.

WENVOE coffee and chat, December 16, Wenvoe Arms at 11am.

LLANDOW/EWENNY PACT, December 21 at Ewenny Village Hall at 7pm.

PLYMOUTH PACT, Lower Penarth Community Centre, Brockhill Way, December 14 at 7pm.

VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

'We must get on top of debt and stimulate investment'

LAST week's **A u t u m n** Statement highlighted the difficulty of the economic climate. However, independent opinion poll analysis shows that the Chancellor's position strengthened with his repeated commitment to reduce the country's debt.

It is worth remembering that in spite of the cuts introduced thus far, the government is still borrowing a quarter of every penny it spends; this relates to everything from teachers and nurses' salaries to benefits and the old age pension.

That's £25 out of every £100 being spent on salaries, roads, social services and refuse collections and all the other things that the government is responsible for.

This is why we are paying £120m a day in interest on the debt and the debt is still rising. Anyone running a household budget or a business knows that we can't continue on this basis.

Therefore, we must get on top of the debt and also

stimulate investment to get the economy moving again. This is what the Chancellor sought to do last week.

First and foremost is the support for energy intensive industries, such as Dow Corning in Barry.

Increased energy prices and regulation to reduce greenhouse gasses could have had the effect of driving the industry overseas, where reducing carbon output is not a priority.

I was delighted when the Chancellor responded to my question, highlighting that a significant level of support was going to be given to support such businesses and manufacturers.

This is something Dow Corning and I have been working on for some time, and there is still more work to do on the detail.

Secondly, this Government aims to help families with the cost of living. Fuel duty will be frozen for 19 months in total.

From April, petrol duty will be a full 10 pence lower than it would have been without the action in the Budget earlier this year; families will save £144 on filling up the average family car by the end of next year. Money was previously



**Vale MP
Alun Cairns**
reports to
GEM readers

made available to freeze next year's council tax increase, which will happen in England, but here in Wales, the Welsh Government are using the money for other matters. Again, hard working families in Wales will have to pay more.

Money is being made available for families and young people, to benefit from the introduction of a scheme to double the number of children who will receive free nursery care, but in Wales, the Welsh

Government will have to decide whether to follow suit and nearly £1 billion will be invested to help young people get jobs and training.

More needs to be done, and this will be addressed with reductions in business taxes, investment in science and apprenticeships, changes to education and welfare, and reforms to housing and small business lending, as announced recently.

The challenges are tougher than the Coalition Government hoped they would be. But, under this Government, borrowing will fall and debt will come down – not as quickly as we wished, because of the weaker economy, but meeting our budget rules – and I believe striking the right balance.

The Chancellor's Autumn Statement, makes an additional £216m available to the Welsh Government to spend on capital projects.

It's now up to the Welsh Government to invest in infrastructure projects in Wales to help get our economy moving in Wales and take responsibility for its own spending.

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Children form human chain to send off filled shoe boxes



ABOVE: Gladstone pupils are generous in spirit and in deed!

THE children of Gladstone Primary School braved inclement weather last week to form a human chain – to carry their filled shoeboxes for



Operation Christmas Child.

The shoeboxes, packed with presents and goodies, travelled along the chain, which snaked from the school hall in the junior building to the collection van on the front yard – their first step on a long journey to brighten the lives of children throughout the world in disadvantaged situations.

"A total of 133 shoeboxes were collected this year, two more than last year. Once again, I am overwhelmed by the generosity and support from the Gladstone children and parents. A huge thank you to all who contributed," said Sarah Creasey.

CCTV probe at leisure centre

A member of Penarth Leisure Centre staff has been dismissed, following an allegation involving the inappropriate use of CCTV.

The person involved has not been named. Mr Reuben Bergman, the head of human resources at the Vale Council, said the council had completed a thorough investigation into the issues involved.

He said: "Steps have been taken in accordance with our internal disciplinary procedures. This has included the dismissal of a member of staff."

"We would like to reassure visitors to Penarth Leisure Centre that CCTV was not used to inappropriately view customers inside the leisure centre."

Stephanie wins a moose in local Christmas raffle!



Stephanie with her friendly moose!



Nicola of Miss Holmes, has thanked customers who took part in her festive raffle.

MISS HOLMES Exclusive Gifts at High Street, Barry, held a festive raffle for a giant Christmas moose – and it was won by Stephanie Rey from Sully.

Stephanie regularly shops at Miss Holmes and has bought most of her gifts there.

Nicola, the owner, told The GEM: "The response was amazing, with a donation from the proceeds going to a local charity."

Vale Flying Vet found guilty – BUT IS SET FREE

VALE Flying Vet, Maurice Kirk, was found guilty last week (December 1) at Cardiff Magistrates Court on a charge of harassing a forensic psychologist, Dr Tegwyn Williams.

However, after receiving an 18-week sentence for the offence, Mr Kirk was set free because he had already served the time in jail while awaiting trial.

In a surprise development, Mr Kirk was then arrested by the Metropolitan Police and taken to Highbury Magistrates Court to answer a charge of failing to appear in court on a due date.

The following day (Friday, December 2) Mr Kirk was fined a total of £125 by Highbury Magistrates and set free.

Vale motorist allowed bail

A VALE motorist has appeared in court facing a charge of driving with excess alcohol, after an incident in which paraplympic cyclist Simon Richardson was injured.

Edward Adams, aged 60, of Centre Cowbridge, is also charged with dangerous driving and failing to stop in connection with the incident on the A48 at Crack Hill on August 17.

No pleas were entered to the charges, and the case was adjourned until January 18. It will next be heard at Cardiff Magistrates Court.

Bail was allowed on condition that Mr Adams does not drive a motor vehicle.

The hearing was held at the Vale Magistrates Court in Barry.

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Teacher wins top learner award!



Sian Thomas and pupils by Gemma Griffiths Photography

SIAN THOMAS, a teacher at Colwinston pre-school, was recently awarded 'Learner of the Year' by Cardiff and Vale Apprenticeships.

Sian has been studying for her NVQ Level 2, Childcare Practitioners Course

at Barry College, which she has now successfully completed.

"Staff, parents, and children of the pre-school would like to congratulate Sian on this wonderful achievement, we are very proud of her," a spokesperson said.

Thieves arrested after garden gate is stolen

TWO people have been arrested in connection with a series of metal thefts in Barry.

The owner of a house in Romilly Park Road reported the theft of his gate on December 1. Later the same day, another metal theft was reported at Hafren Road, and two men were arrested.

The arrests were among seven carried out by South Wales Police, as the result of information provided by CCTV operators in the Vale up to

December 4. Working under the umbrella of the Safer Vale Partnership, the team also passed on details which led to the arrest of two people for theft at Dock View Road on December 2.

There was another arrest involving possession of an offensive weapon in Thompson Street on December 1, and two people were apprehended on outstanding warrants in Broad Street on December 3.

CCTV operators contacted the police on 38 occasions last week.

Glamorgan YFC takes English title

FIVE members from Glamorgan YFC recently represented their county at the English Winter Fair on November 20.

The annual event, which is held at Staffordshire County Showground, saw three members from Maendy YFC (Hannah Lewis, Kate Thomas and Tom Rees) along with two Bridgend YFC members (Christina Jones and Eleri Haris-Thomas) take part in the National Young Farmers Stock-judging competition.

The format of the competition requires competitors to judge a ring of four stock/carcasses, within a time limit of 10 minutes – placing them in order of the strongest to poorest animal in the ring, according to the respective butchering points.

Each competitor will then proceed to give reasons (maximum of two minutes) to the judge, who has previously inspected the stock and placed them in the order that he feels is correct.

It was an early start for the Glamorgan team, but their efforts definitely paid off. Hannah, who competed in the senior live beef competition,

took second place and, joined by intermediate team mate Eleri, who also judged live beef, they were second in the pairs.

Tom took part in the senior beef carcass judging, something he had no experience of competing in prior to this competition, and did extremely well, taking first place. Kate Thomas (intermediate) and Christina Jones (senior), who were judging live lambs, were also highly placed on the day.

Aside from fantastic individual results, the Glamorgan team beat off a high-standard of competition against 15 other counties to win the overall county stock-judging team of the Year.

Well done to all those who competed.

HL

Delta fayre

A CHRISTMAS craft fayre is being held at Barry in aid of Delta, a charity that supports deaf children through an aural education.

It will be held at the Barry YMCA Hub on Sunday, December 11 between 10am-3pm.

Santa will be there for the little ones and all his proceeds are going to the charity.



Alun Cairns MP with staff from St Andrew's Major C/W Primary School and teachers from Brittany and Italy.

MP on a learning exercise – at school!

LAST week, Alun Cairns, MP for the Vale, visited St Andrew's Major C/W Primary School in Dinas Powys to meet visitors attending the school as part of the Comenius Project with the British Council.

He joined headteacher Sue Jordan, staff and children as they welcomed visitors from Pluguggan in Brittany and Passo Corese in Italy.

The project aims to develop knowledge and understanding among young people and teachers about the diversity of European cultures and languages, and the value of diversity.

Mr Cairns said: "I had the warmest

welcome from the staff and team at the school, and the children epitomised the school's ethos of enjoyment for learning in a happy and caring environment.

"It was a learning exercise for me to better understand the different approach to teaching between the countries. Clearly we can all learn a lot from each other.

"As part of the Comenius Project, the pupils had created a great video, highlighting the bilingual nature of

Wales, which helped the visitors to develop their knowledge and understanding of the language and culture here in Wales."

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The staff at both Broad Street and

Boverton prefer to open your Christmas trees up for you to look at, making sure you have the tree that you want, then net it back up for you to take home. We offer a weekday, local delivery service for customers.

There will also be a fine selection of fresh, hand-made holly wreaths for you to choose from. We do a range of decorated wreaths, ones that can go on graves to lovely big door wreaths.

We are holding a raffle, the prizes being a Calor Gas fire donated by Calor Gas, a birdtable which would make a lovely Christmas gift for somebody and Broad Street and Boverton Garden Centre gift vouchers. All the money collected

from the raffle will be donated to two charities – you can choose which one you want your money to go to when you buy your raffle tickets.

If you are not able to join us in our Broad Street Garden Centre please go to the Boverton Garden Centre to pick up your tree and wreath. You might not get a free burger there, but you will have the pleasure of John Shapland serving you – he will not be dressed up as an elf!

Finally, all the staff at Broad Street, Boverton and our yard over at the Barry Docks, would like to wish our customers a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2012.

What's on and where in your area...

Vale AM's surgery

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, will be holding a surgery this Saturday (December 10) at the Vale Citizen's Advice Bureau office, 199 Broad Street, Barry, from 10am to 12 noon. No appointments are necessary.

School fun

NOTTAGE Primary School, Porthcawl, holds a festive fun event on Friday, December 9 at 3.40pm; admission 50p.

Santa, raffle, Nottage Primary Christmas puddings for sale, chocolate tombola, mulled wine and mince pies, lucky dip, soft toy tombola and Christmas skittles.

Nottage fayre

THERE is a pre-Christmas fayre on Saturday, December 10 at St David's Church, Florence Street, Nottage Village from 12 noon. Light refreshments, and Santa will be there.

Festive market

THE Village Market will be holding its Christmas market and craft fair on Saturday, December 10 from 10am-2pm in Peterston Super Ely church and community hall.

Craft stalls, homemade cakes and produce, Christmas plants and decorations.

Welsh Folk dancers, carol singers, mince pies, mulled wine,

homemade soup and hot turkey rolls!

Entry is free and all profits go towards the upkeep and improvement of hall facilities.

For further information, contact Pat Cadwalladr on 01446 760267.

Salem church

COFFEE morning at Salem Baptist Church, Beryl Road, Barry, on Saturday, December 10 at 10.30am-12.30pm.

Free refreshments and mince pies, carols, a short film on the meaning of Christmas, and an opportunity to dress up as wise men, shepherds and angels!

Christmas surgery

RESIDENTS who live in the Court Ward, Barry, are invited to meet their independent

councillor, Richard Bertin, on Saturday (December 10) between 9am and 10am at the Jenner Room, Barry YMCA on Court Road.

Memorial candles

BARRY Town Council advise the public that Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery Chapel will be open on Sunday, December 11 for the purpose of lighting a candle, in memory of loved ones who have passed away, from 3.30pm-6pm.

Volunteer sought

VALE Volunteer Bureau is looking for a volunteer to assist with office/administration at 34 Holton Road, Barry. Telephone 01446 421782 or email info@vub.org.uk.

Tenovus service

THE Llantwit Major Friends of Tenovus are holding their 'Lovelight' service on Thursday, December 15 at 7.30pm in St Illtyds Church, Llantwit Major. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sing for charities

SING carols on

December 11 at 6pm in Peterston Super Ely when the village tree lights will be turned on by Derek, the TV weatherman. Father Christmas will be present!

Mince pies and mulled wine available.

Donations will go to the Ty Hafan hospice and the Stroke Association. The tree will be situated near the Three Horseshoes.

**Come to
our brilliant
Christmas Fete**

Please join us for our Christmas Fete on Saturday 10th December from 10am until 1pm. There will be some great stalls including: Christmas Crafts, craft and toy stalls, mirror painting and face painting. Everyone welcome!



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Tracy wins voucher

THE Tan-y-Hyde £25 voucher wordsearch winner was Tracy Pickett, of Dawan Close, Barry.

Keep an eye out for more great GEM competitions in the New Year!

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Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee

A Christmas Service

will be held at
Coychurch Crematorium
Thursday 15th December
2011 at 7.00pm
Led by
Father William Isaac
St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Bridgend
Rev. Michael Komor
Parish of Coity, Noltan and Brackla
Featuring **Cantor Coety Choir**
COMPLIMENTARY WINE AND MINCE PIES
WILL BE SERVED AT THE END OF THE SERVICE
All are Welcome

Cyd-bwllgor Amlogfa Llangrallo

Gwasanaeth Nadolig

yn cael ei gynnal yn
Amlogfa Llangrallo
Nos Iau 15ed o Ragfyr 2011
am 7.00pm
Dan arweiniad
Y Tad William Isaac
Eglwys Babyddol y Santes Fair, Pen-y-Bont
Y Parch. Michael Komor
Y Plwyf Coety, Noltan a Brackla
Yng nghwmni **Y Côr**
Cantorion Coety
BYDD GWIN A MINS PEIS AM DDIM YN CAEL
EU GWEINI AR DDIEDD Y GWASANAETH
Croeso i Bawb

Scorsese on top form as Hugo takes your breath away!

GIVEN his past dalliances with gangsters, lowlifes, chinese emperors, rockstars and jazz musicians, the chances of seeing Martin Scorsese direct a kids' film were as likely as 'I'm A Celebrity...'

finding an actual celebrity. However, the director has thrown a curveball with his latest film, *Hugo*, a piece a world away from the ones that he usually inhabits.

Based on the book, *The Invention Of Hugo Cabret*, it tells the story of the titular character (Asa Butterfield) in 1930s Paris, who lives within the walls of a train station alone, after the death of his inventor father (Jude Law).

However, a chance encounter with a young girl called Isabelle (Chloe Moretz) sends the pair into a mystery involving an automaton Hugo's father was working on...

For a man with more critical kudos than most directors combined, and

a mantelpiece full of awards (including that once-elusive Oscar) it would be easy to expect Martin Scorsese to do a little laurel resting.

After all, having helmed the likes of *Raging Bull*, *Taxi Driver* and *Goodfellas*, the director could easily sit back and become an elder statesman of cinema, happy to rest upon past glories, rather than attempt to create new ones.

Which is why this venture into family-friendly filmmaking is both a sign that Scorsese isn't quite finished up just yet, and also that he feels more than comfortable, not only tackling a broader genre, but also dipping his toes into the murky world of 3D.

If the excitement of seeing one of the finest directors and cinematographers burst headlong into this (for him) brave new world is enough for you to handle, then the news is wholly positive; for while *Hugo* skews to an older audience than you would have thought, Scorsese manages to create a world of wonder and charm that drips with poignancy and

beauty.

Hardly a slouch when it comes to the aesthetics of cinema, Scorsese's films always look gorgeous, whether it is the gritty streets of New York, or the golden era of Hollywood in *The Aviator*, and *Hugo* is no exception to this rule.

Opening with a truly spectacular tracking shot that highlights his ability to compose shots, the film constantly amazes in terms of the visuals, the world existing somewhere between our reality and a heightened, stylised one. But whether we are in the immaculately realised train station with its boudoirs and newspaper stands, or in the maze of mechanics that Hugo calls home, the film never fails to come to life so vibrantly on the screen.

While Scorsese certainly deserves the plaudits, so does Dante Ferretti, a regular collaborator of Scorsese's, whose production design gives the director the canvas on which to work. Combining together, the pair have created a truly mesmerising world that is a wonder to the eye.

John Logan's script easily transfers the story from page to screen and loses none of the emotion from it, either; the screenplay pitches perfectly, is paced incredibly well, and allows the mystery element to flow, while also having time for several subplots – none of which is short-changed by the amount of time Logan gives them.

The cast are all uniformly superb as well, particularly Asa Butterfield and Chloe Moretz, the young leads more than holding their own with some incredible talent.

The former delivers a performance that, while occasionally a touch overdone, emphasises the innocence and emotion of the young orphan who is clinging on to the memories of his father – while the latter, with a near-perfect accent, is

the wide-eyed foil to Hugo, the pair sharing a likeable chemistry that gives the film strong foundations.

The grown-up portion of the cast is similarly excellent – Ben Kingsley as the mysterious toy salesman whose past becomes a key plot point looking more lively and sparky than he has since *Sexy Beast* – while Michael Stuhlbarg, Helen McCrory and Emily Mortimer all shine with varying amounts of screentime.

But Sacha Baron Cohen steals the show from them as the station guard intent on catching as many orphans as possible – a rather one-note role that the comedian gives valuable shade to, earning dramatic kudos as well as comedic ones in a hugely entertaining turn. The Peter Sellers comparisons feel even more apt after this performance.

The only mis-step the film makes is, ironically, not even its fault; had you seen the trailer for *Hugo* you would have expected a children's film with echoes of *City of Ember*, all about youngsters on a magical adventure.

The actuality is that *Hugo*, while having fleeting moments, is a far more mature piece than you would think, and as such may be the sort of film that youngsters may not engage with, while older audience members will be left rapt.

A criticism, then, but hardly the most negative of ones, in a film that

'Support Ty Hafan hospice' – plea

FOLLOWING the success of last year, Park Independent Funeral Directors are asking for help to donate chocolate selection boxes for children and their families at Ty Hafan Children's hospice in Sully.

Lyndsay Ellis of Park Funerals aims to continue the success on last year, when over 200 selection boxes were donated by the public.

"Selection boxes can be brought into our premises at Tynewydd Road or if requested can be collected from local businesses or members of the public.

"I hope and look forward to putting smiles on the faces of the children at Ty Hafan again this year," Lyndsay said.

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

will capture your imagination; *Hugo* is a superb film, one which will enchant and excite.

VERDICT: Less a children's film, and more Martin Scorsese's love letter to cinema, *Hugo* is a beautiful film that sees the esteemed director change gears with no little style and panache.

With a top-notch cast and a story that will warm even the coldest of hearts, *Hugo* is well worth two hours of your time. *Highly recommended.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* (2005), *City Of Ember* (2008).

Wick artist holds Senedd exhibition

A WICK artist and disability campaigner is exhibiting her work at The Senedd.

'Blind Love' is a visual art exhibition by local artist and carer Sol Jorgensen, and can be viewed until December 16.

Her work consists of larger than life drawings of Welsh people, executed in a strong charcoal and chalk style. Born in Church Village, RCT, and now living in Wick.

Her inspiration is the lives of the people around her – giving unique expression and form to her Welsh heritage.

As the launch of the exhibition was close to Carers' Rights Day on

December 2, Sol invited carers from all over Wales to send in a Christmas Wish to let the professionals and the politicians know what they really want for themselves, and those for whom they care.

The arts project was created by Sol, in collaboration with The Carers' Centre for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, and supported by Carers Wales and the Wales Carers' Alliance.

Both the exhibition and the Carers Wish event are being sponsored by Vale AM, Jane Hutt.

She said: "I would like to express my thanks to Sol Jorgensen for her inspiration and hard work in organising this event and raising awareness of the pressures facing unpaid carers."



The Boxer by Sol Jorgensen.

Sol added: "Every day my son fights to live and breathe. "When his disabled rights are met, then, and only then, can I consider my carer's rights and a life of my own."

MAYOR'S CHARITY COFFEE

THE Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan's charity coffee morning is being held at the Corporate Suite, Civic Office, Holton Road, Barry, on Tuesday, December 13.

It runs from 10.30am-12 noon. All proceeds will go to the Ashgrove School.

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CHRISTMAS SHOPPING in COWBRIDGE

Enjoy Late Night - Thursday, 15th December - Lots of shops open!

Christmas excitement builds in Cowbridge

Pictures by ANDY WICKS



In Cowbridge, the chamber of trade has a long history of putting on events such as the Reindeer parade (pictured above and right) which raise the profile of the town.

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Jo Marley wishes to thank all her loyal customers/friends for their support and to express compliments of the season to you all!

Kelly Harrison will be ready to welcome you to her new salon

Beau's Hair Boutique

5 Westgate Street, Cowbridge CF71 7AQ
which will be opening Tuesday 3 January
Appointments now being taken.
Call Kelly on 01446 776456

FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY – it's the Cowbridge Christmas shopping extravaganza..!

SHOPPERS in the Vale are already familiar with the many plus points of shopping in Cowbridge – but next week the traders are adding something extra!

The town is proud of its relaxed ambience during normal shopping hours, but for one night only, retailers will be offering a special Christmas welcome.

Cowbridge High Street traders are joining forces to encourage local shopping this Christmas by holding a late night shopping event on Thursday, December 15.

They are also introducing a 'Cowbridge Christmas Gift Guide'.

A spokeswoman for the organisers said: "Cowbridge High Street is the only department store needed for your Christmas shopping!

"It's all covered – ladieswear, menswear, children's wear, beauty products, shoes, perfume, sportsgear, lingerie, homeware, haberdashery, toys and games, luxury food

items, coffee bars and lovely eating places – with none of the crowds, parking fees and stress of the city centre!

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15)

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Christmas made easier with the help of...



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★ 3 LUCKY WINNERS

The Quarter Penny now hosts a deli section with food to take home and enjoy. Venison or Pork and Pistachio Terrines, Organic Welsh Cheeses, Christmas Chutney, Mustard and Marmalade.

Delicious home-cooked meals wait in the freezer for you to reheat at home for a simple supper when time is precious. You can simply let the meal cook in the oven whilst you put your feet up with a glass of festive mulled wine!

Claire's stunning cakes and desserts can be pre-ordered for any occasion plus whole quiches, salads & canapes.

The QPC also offers a bespoke hamper service. Natalie can design a hamper to your budget to perfectly suit your chosen recipient. The wish list is endless - smoked salmon, terrines, pates, chutneys, mince pies, Christmas puddings, cake, wines, port and champagne. Just pop in and see Natalie and she will create a bespoke hamper for you.

54 High Street, Cowbridge CF71 7AH

T 01446 774999 www.quarterpennycafe.co.uk

Winners to be announced on 'What's on' Pages, 22nd December edition. (Normal competition rules apply. No correspondence will be entered into)

★ 3 LUCKY WINNERS



★ £60 WORTH OF CHRISTMAS TREATS

★ £60 WORTH OF CHRISTMAS TREATS

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COMPETITION ENTRY FORM:

What was the original name of The Quarter Penny Cafe?

ANSWER

Name

Address

Tel. Email

All entrants must be 18 or over to be eligible. Please send your coupon to The Quarter Penny Cafe at the address (left) or email: natalieisac@hotmail.co.uk

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CHRISTMAS SHOPPING in COWBRIDGE

Enjoy Late Night - Thursday, 15th December - Lots of shops open!

Cardiff Blues just love Cowbridge!



There is no shortage of new shops and enterprises choosing Cowbridge as the place to build their own niche in the market place.

One such is Arboreal, a restaurant which recently opened its doors. Members of the Cardiff Blues, including Cowbridge's latest Welsh international, Lloyd Williams (left) called in to try the menu, where they were photographed by Mike Wilcock of The GEM.

Late night delight

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14
"We are offering a special service so that customers can leave a 'wish list' for family and friends with their favourite stores – maximising opportunities to get what they want for Christmas – while minimising the potential waste of unwanted gifts."

At the late night shopping event on December 15, there will be parking available at the Barefoot Studio, where shoppers can collect the Christmas Gift Guide, a drinks voucher and a prize draw entry before heading off to do

their shopping.

Another Christmas bonus is that free shopping goody bags will go to the first 30 shopping families who arrive between 5pm and 8pm.

Personal Santa shoppers will also be available for those that want directions and impartial advice – in exchange for a donation to the local Samaritans group.

The gift guide contains present ideas for him, for her, for the children, at a variety of price points.

In recent years, many shops in the town have put their own gloss on the evening by offering a

personal and seasonal welcome.

The Cowbridge Christmas Gift Guide and late night shopping event has been jointly co-ordinated by the Chamber of Trade, HubCowbridge, and Barefoot Studio.

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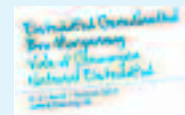
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UN o'r prif wobrau a ddyfennir mewn unrhyw Eisteddfod yw'r Goron a roddir i'r Bryddest orau. Mewn seremoni arbennig a gynhelir ar Ddydd Llun yr Eisteddfod, fe goronir Bardd gan yr Archdrwydd mewn seremoni ysblennydd.

Dyma un o ddigwyddiadau mwyaf cofiadwy unrhyw Eisteddfod. Mae golau'r Pafiliwn yn cael ei bylly ac mae ton o dawelwch yn disgyn dros y gynulleidfa wrth iddynt aros am alwad y Cym Gwlad.

Ysgubir golau ar draws y pafiliwn cyn cyrraedd un man lle sefir y bardd buddugol ar ei d/thraed. Saif yr Archdrwydd ar y llwyfan yn ei regaliau aur gyda'r Orsedd tu cefn iddo yn barod i gyfarch y bardd ar y llwyfan.

I'r beirdd ei hunain dyma benllanw misoedd o aros ers postio'r gwaith erbyn y dyddiad

cau gan ddefnyddio ffug enw yn hytrach na'i enwau bob dydd.

Cedwir enw'r bardd buddugol yn gudd, gyda dim ond ychydig yn gwybod y gyfrinach. Mae'r seremoni yn un gwefreiddiol un o uchafbwyntiau celfyddyd Cymraeg.

Testun y Goron eleni yw 'Ynys' gyda Cen Williams, Cyril Jones a Penri Roberts yn beirniadu. Noddir y Goron gan Gyngor Bro Morgannwg ac efallai bod rhai ohonoch wedi darllen yn ddiweddar fod y gemydd lleol Anne Morgan o Benarth wedi ei dewis i greu y Goron.

Ond beth am seremonïau Coroni'r ddwy Eisteddfod arall sydd wedi ymweld â'r Fro?

1920: Noddwyd y Goron gan Mr TH Morley o Sully a rhodwyd gwerth o £30 arni. Arddangoswyd y goron cyn yr Eisteddfod yn siop ffenest John Jones & Co, 114 Holton Road y Bari.

Dysfarwyd y goron i löwr ifanc, James Evans, yn wreiddiol o

Feulah, Castell Newydd Emlyn ond ar y pryd yn byw yn Ynysyhir.

Rhonda. Dyma'r tro cyntaf i James Evans ennill y goron yn y Genedlaethol er iddo ennill sawl tro mewn Eisteddfodau lleol.

Wedi dilyn cwrs gradd ym Mhrifysgol Cymru fe'i hyfforddwyd ar gyfer y weindogaeth ond yn ôl y South Wales News bu rhaid iddo "relinquish the pulpit for the pit due to a speech impediment".

Yn ôl yr adroddiad roedd yr olygfa yn y pafiliwn yn un ysbrydoledig gyda thorf o rhwng 10,000-12,000 yn bresennol gyda'r Archdrwydd Dyfed wrth y llyw.

Yr Athro WJ Gruffydd oedd yn tradodi'r feiriadaeth a darganfuwyd yn fuan nad oedd y dorf helaeth yn gallu ei glywed ac felly bu'n rhaid ffeindio 'megaphone' ar gyfer y feiriadaeth.

Roedd yn feiriadaeth hallt fodd bynnag, gyda'r beirniad yn nodi iaw dim ond tri o'r 17 a ymgeisiodd oedd

yn werth unrhyw ystyriaeth.

Yn ôl y Western Mail pan roddwyd y Goron ar ben y bardd roedd yn rhy fach a phan gododd ar ei draed fe gwympodd y goron i'r llawr!

Cafwyd cyntaf arall yn ystod yr Eisteddfod hefyd gan i'r gerdd fuddugol gael ei chyhoeddi am y tro cyntaf yn union ar ôl y seremoni.

1968: Noddwyd Coroni Eisteddfod y Bari 1968 gan Mr a Mrs Dan Evans y Bari ac roedd yn nodweddiadol am y ffaith mai plastig oedd y prif ddefnydd. Penderfynwyd y byddai'n symbolig i ddefnyddio'r plastig yn y cynllun gan mai cynhyrchu plastig oedd un o brif ddiwydiannau'r dref.

Creuwyd y goron gan Keith Redfern oedd ar y pryd yn un o'r prif gynllunwyr oedd yn gweithio gyda'r defnydd.

Defnyddwyd plastig ac arian yn y cynllun gyda melford porffor yn gorffen y gwaith i greu coron a ddisgrifwyd ar y pryd yn y Faner fel "Portread celfydd o goron mewn defnydd cyfoes".

Derbyniwyd 22 o gerddi ar y testun 'Meini' gyda phryddest gweinidog o'r Rhonda, Parch Haydn Lewis oedd yn enedigol o Geredigion, yn fuddugol. Ysbydoliwyd y gerdd gan farwolaeth ei unig ferch ddeng mlwydd yn gynt ac roedd y gerdd yn ddilyniant o'r gerdd a enillodd Coroni Eisteddfod Dyffryn Maelor iddo yn 1961.

Daeth y dyfarniad fodd bynnag yn dilyn anghytnedeb llwyr rhwng y beirniad, a'r unig ffordd i ddatrys y broblem oedd i ddod â beirniad annibynnol i mewn. Roedd y tri beirniad: Dr Thomas Parry, Parch. Euros Bowen a Waldo Williams yn gyntu ar y tri bardd gorau ymlith y 22 ond roedd pob un yn ffafrio cerdd wahanol. Am y tro cyntaf yn eu hanes bu'n rhaid i Gyngor yr Eisteddfod apwyntio beirniad annibynnol a gofynnwyd i Alun Llywelyn Williams i benderfynu rhwng y tri ac fe ddiweddodd cerdd Haydn Lewis.

On stage, the Archdruid stands in his golden regalia, while behind him, the green,



Haydn Lewis, winner of the Crown at the 1968 Eisteddfod in Barry.

Dyddiad cau cystadleuaeth Coroni Eisteddfod Bro Morgannwg 2012 yw Ebrill 1af ac fe gynhelir Seremoni'r Coroni ym Mhafiliwn yr Eisteddfod ar ddydd Llun, Awst 6ed am 4.30pm.

Vale of Glamorgan Eisteddfod

CROWN

ONE of the main prizes awarded at any Eisteddfod is the Crown, awarded for the best Pryddest (long poem in free metre). During a special ceremony, which is held on the Monday of the Eisteddfod week, the winning poet is crowned by the Archdruid in a spectacular ceremony.

It is one of the most memorable moments at any National Eisteddfod. The Pavilion lights are dimmed and an expectant hush descends upon the capacity audience as they await the fanfare of horns. Lights sweep across a sea of faces until one, and only one person rises.

On stage, the Archdruid stands in his golden regalia, while behind him, the green, blue and white robed rows of Gorsedd members make for a striking backcloth. For the writers themselves, the drama will have started months before as they rush to get their entries in on time, using pseudonyms instead of their real names. The winner's identity will be kept a very close secret known to only a few. The rest of the ceremony is just thrilling – it is one of the great spectacles of Welsh culture.

The subject for this year's Crown is 'Ynys' (Island) and will be adjudicated by Cen Williams, Cyril Jones and Penri Roberts. The Crown will be sponsored by the Vale of Glamorgan Council and you may have read recently that local jeweller, Anne Morgan from Penarth has been chosen to design and create the crown.

But what of the crowning ceremonies of the two other Eisteddfodau that have visited the Vale of Glamorgan? 1920: The Crown was sponsored by Mr TH Morley JP of Sully and valued at £30 and was displayed in Barry in the shop window of John Jones & Co. Drapers at 114 Holton Road before the Eisteddfod.

The crown was awarded to a young collier James Evans, originally from Beulah, Newcastle Emlyn, but at

the time living in Ynysyhir, Rhonda.

This was the first time James Evans had won the National Eisteddfod Crown although he had won several crowns at local Eisteddfodau. He was a University graduate who trained initially as a Minister, but according to the South Wales News writing at the time, had to "relinquish the pulpit for the pit due to a speech impediment".

The scene in the pavilion during the ceremony it was reported was an inspiring one with an estimated 10,000-12,000 people present and the Archdruid, Dyfed in charge of proceedings.

One of the adjudicators, Professor WJ Gruffydd, who soon found that his voice would not carry to the large crowd present and had to resort to using a megaphone, delivered a scathing critique of those who had entered the crown competition, noting that only three of the 17 were worthy of consideration.

According to the Western Mail, when the crown was placed on the head of the winning bard it was found to be too small, and a great deal of amusement was caused when the poet rose from his knees the crown slipped from his head on to the stage.

For the first time the winning poet's work was published immediately after the ceremony. 1968: The 1968 Barry Eisteddfod Crown was sponsored by Mr & Mrs Dan Evans of Barry – it was noteworthy as the main material used in the crown was plastic.

It was decided that as the production of plastic was one of the main industries associated with Barry it would be symbolic to use the material in the design.

The crown was

designed and created by Keith Redfern, who was one of the leading designers working with the material at the time.

Both plastic and silver were used and the crown was finished with purple velvet to create what was described at the time as an "artistic crown using contemporary materials."

Twenty two poems were submitted for the competition, the subject of which was Meini (Stones) and the Crown was won by Rhonda Minister, the Rev Haydn Lewis, who was originally from Ceredigion.

The poem was inspired by the death ten years previously of his only daughter and was a continuation of the poem which won the Rev Lewis the Crown at the 1961 Maelor Valley Eisteddfod.

The award, however, came only after a very unusual deadlock between the adjudicators.

Each of the three wanted to award the crown to a different poet and the argument could only be resolved by inviting an outsider to decide.

All three judges, Dr Thomas Parry, Rev Euros Bowen and Waldo Williams, all agreed which of the 22 were the best three poems, but each favoured a different one for the prize.

The Eisteddfod Council, for the first time in its history, then appointed Alun Llywelyn Williams to choose between the three poems and he chose the poem written by Durtur y Maen which was the pseudonym of the Rev Lewis.

The closing date for this year's crown competition is April 1, and the Crowning ceremony will be held in the Eisteddfod Pavilion on Monday, August 6, at 4.30pm.

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Students rock the stage for Freddie!



THE cast of the St Cyres School production of the smash-hit musical We Will Rock You were amazed when they received a message of support from none other than rock legend, Brian May.

In a poignant message to our students, on the 20th anniversary of Freddie's death, he said "do it for Freddie and the Vibe is with you!"

The students did not fail Brian May, giving their performances all they had. The show was an outstanding success with two sell-out shows. Students belted out classic Queen hits, to the delight of the packed hall.

The audience clapped and stamped along, turning our usually quiet hall into something more akin to a rock concert at

Above and below: Members of the cast are pictured during the performance.



Wembley Stadium. The main cast consisted of Tom James as Galileo, Lauren Phillips as Scaramouche, Elias Jamieson as Kashoggi, Elena Jamieson as Killer Queen, Loren Hoare as Meatloaf, Joshua Davey-Stewart as Britney Spears and Joe Green as Pop.

However, the produc-

tion could not have been such a success without the contributions of many more pupils onstage and backstage.

This week, we have certainly seen some stars of the future, and if Freddie was looking down on the stage that night, I am sure that he agrees!

Lessons and carols in St Lawrence

ON Sunday, December 11, at 3pm, the Friends of St Lawrence at Lavernock are holding their Christmas Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in the listed medieval church building.

Leading the service will be the honorary chaplain, Rev Margaret Starke, with Ann Thomas playing the organ. All are welcome.

Mince pies and mulled wine will be served following the service, at the Marconi Holiday Village by invitation of Mr Colin Kitsall and his family, to which all are welcome.

Free parking is available close to the church, which is at the sea end of the lane Fort Road; the turning south off Lavernock Road, opposite the field entrance to Cosmeston Medieval Village. Enquiries to 02920 707300.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D699.

● £2000: 625234.

● The rollover, which now stands at £5,000 was not won this week.

● £10: 608825.

834846, 555678, 248544, 749144, 191703, 261478, 792374, 352910, 829172, 874607, 244982, 320560, 531885, 572018, 745831, 534804, 239279, 672470, 200627.

● £5: 738518, 232973, 632330, 224828, 715808, 549732, 468357, 358346, 720334, 240068, 347038, 281387, 383486, 217979,

755594, 703946, 445012, 635651, 407947, 492147, 507548, 782770, 826655, 950762, 416669, 312068, 345613, 556919, 650026, 980782, 879816, 243542, 173909, 866367, 276799, 238482, 701092, 507016, 587753, 834998, 834424, 461216, 252153, 553748, 877778, 205175, 623182, 145786, 294143, 935668, 653318, 816410, 624442, 473275, 240287, 828708, 756484, 912421, 303046, 435564.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 02920 672062.

MP JOINS ROYAL MAIL CALL... 'Post early to be in time for Christmas'

VALE MP Alun Cairns has visited Royal Mail's delivery office at Llandow to pass on his Christmas wishes and encouragement to the staff at their busiest time of year.

Mr Cairns was shown around by local manager Kevin Ryan and was introduced to postmen and women striving to deliver the Vale's share of the estimated total Wales' postbag of more than 200 million items.

Mr Cairns said: "It was great to meet the team at the Vale of Glamorgan Delivery Office, and to hear first-hand just how much effort they put into delivering the Christmas post to residents and businesses across the area."

"Posties do such an important job at this time of year and I'd like to thank them for their efforts and wish them all the best over the busy festive period."

The MP said he was also told how important it is for people to make sure they use postcodes



Pictured left to right: Kevin Ryan, Delivery Office Manager and Alun Cairns MP

on all items of mail, as this ensures a more efficient sorting process.

The team of nearly 40 staff, were keen to let their local MP know that it was also key for people to post their Christmas items as soon as possible.

Kevin Ryan, the manager at Llandow, said: "The postal staff do a fantastic job at this time of year, to ensure that friends and families stay in touch through their Christmas greetings and gifts."

"As usual, we urge our customers to post early so that friends and family have longer to enjoy their

Christmas greetings!"

The last posting dates for mail are as follows:

- **Tuesday, December 20 for 1st Class items.**
- **Saturday, December 17 for 2nd Class items.**
- **Thursday, December 22 for Special Delivery items.**
- **Monday, December 12 for airmail items to Western Europe.**
- **Friday, December 9 for Eastern Europe, the USA, Canada and Japan.**
- **Monday, December 5 for mail to the rest of the world.**

Youth Forum wins praise from the AM

RIGHT: Jess Peters, chair of Vale Youth Forum, is pictured with Jane Hutt AM.

THE Vale Youth Forum AGM, chaired by Jess Peters at the library in King Square last week, was hosted by the Mayor of the Vale, Coun John Clifford.

Trustee Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale, said: "It's wonderful to see how Vale Youth Forum has developed over the past year. There is a wide representation of young people from across the county playing their part in this important forum, so that young people can express their views and influence government policy."

"The Vale Youth



"Inspiration to young citizens"

Forum is fortunate to have inspirational young people like Jess Peters from Gibbonsdown Youth Forum, who chairs the Forum - to encourage the young citizens of the Vale to get involved."

The young people at the AGM were presented with certificates for their involvement in the Forum.

Latest GEM competition winners

CHRISTMAS shopping vouchers to the value of £25 have been won by GEM readers.

In The GEM's Llantwit Major shopping feature (November 17) the winner was Mr Chris Rees of Caerau, Maesteg.

Mr Rees has given the voucher to his mother, Mrs Olive Rees, and she will be spending her £25 at Sloan and Co in Llantwit.

The GEM's Cowbridge shopping competition (December 1) was won by Mrs J Jenkins of Pontyclun, and she has chosen to spend her £25 in High Street Jewellers, Cowbridge.

Congratulations to our winners: keep looking out for more great GEM competitions!

Future Window Solutions offers commitment and great customer service

Craig Harewood



CRAIG and Dina Harewood of Future Window Solutions, which has provided home improvement and building services to commercial and residential clients for many years, believe that the company's attention to detail is one of its great strengths.

Craig explained: "We are a family run company and have grown from strength to strength with our commitment and the fact that good customer service is our priority."

"Future Window Solutions are members of Network Veka. It is an independent nationwide organisation set up to give our customers peace of mind that they have selected a highly respected and professional local company that has the backing of a national trade organisation."

"Veka constantly monitors our performance to ensure we maintain the high standard of workmanship that is not only required for our continued membership, but also to ensure all our work and products meet the required standards set by the Government's building regulations that covers energy performance that will help save on your energy bills."

Among the company's clients are Domestic Property, Ashgrove School Penarth, Mynydd Cynfyn School Bridgend, Barclays Bank branches, Dwr Cymru, Youth Offenders' Centre, car showrooms, local estate agencies and Local Authorities.

Dina said: "We offer a wide range of products and services."

"All types of building work are 'project managed' from planning all the way through to completion."

"We supply and install high quality Veka PVC-u windows, doors, sash, bi-folds and other materials."

"We also specialise in conservatories, orangeries, and garage conversions. The products we supply are 'energy efficient' as standard."

"The company also provides a 'no job is too small' repair service."

Future Window Solutions takes pride in the fact that the majority of enquiries come via recommendation and believe its high standards is responsible for the work.

Craig added: "People should be assured that all tenders and enquiries will have our full co-operation and full attention at all times."

"Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information."

Future Window Solutions would like to wish all its customers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all the team.

Craig and Dina Harewood would also like to thank the staff and team for all their hard work this year.



The Future Window Solutions team is celebrating another successful year.

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'Help us to help elderly' – CRISIS CONCERN

AGE Concern Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, is appealing to the public to help raise funds towards supporting older people in crisis.

The 'Crisis Concern' appeal was launched on Monday (December 5), and assists people who are vulnerable, isolated and in poverty who find themselves in need of support in these tough economic times.

'Age Concern already spends £5,000 a year to benefit around 40 individual older people.

We need to double the money available this year," said Karen Steele, Relationship Development Officer.

"The £10,000 we are

asking people to help us raise will be spent through payments made to the supplier of goods or services. Payments are not made to individual applicants.

"Grants are typically awarded at around £150 to £200 and your donation will help older people in crisis.

"It will help replace or repair essentials such as: furniture, a fridge, washing machine, cooker, some other electrical goods, beds, bedding and clothing."

To find out more about the Crisis Concern appeal, visit www.age-concern-cardiff.org.uk or contact Age Concern Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan on 02920 527 186.

Ty Hafan plea as the public's donations fall

LIKE many charities across the country, the Sully-based Ty Hafan children's hospice has reported a big drop in the number and value of donations during the economic downturn, spokeswoman Liz Rundle revealed this week.

"Together with the fact that the hospice has experienced a significant increase in the number of families being referred to the service over the last year, this means that, like many similar charities, times are getting tougher," she said.

"Many of our families have come to depend upon the support

we give them in caring for their child, or in some cases children. This makes us very mindful of the fact that, somehow, Ty Hafan has to find the financial means to keep going both now and in the years to come.

"Whilst we fully recognise the constraints that family budgets are under, we ask that those who can, continue to help us meet the £3 million annual bill of running the hospice and being there for those families."

To support one of Wales' most needed charities, visit www.tyhafan.org or, alternatively, call 029 2067 2060.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

THE Penarth Christmas Tree Festival takes place on Saturday (December 10) and Sunday. It starts with breakfast with Santa for accompanied children from 9.30pm on Saturday, in the Community Hall, Albert Road.

The Town Mayor, the Town Crier, Santa and the Piper, will assemble at 10.45am to lead a procession of children and families up through Belle Vue Park to the church steps.

The Mayor will declare the festival open and 45 decorated trees will be on display inside the church, while local musicians and singers will perform.

Entrance £2.50, concessions £2, children admitted free. Proceeds in aid of three selected charities – Singing for the Brain, Leprosy International, and Autistic Society Cymru.

Festival hours: Saturday 11am-5pm; Sunday 12pm-5pm.

Councillors' surgery

LABOUR councillors for Castletand, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake and Karl Kuhnell, will be holding their monthly advice surgery this Saturday (December 10) between 10.30am and 12pm in the Castletand Community Centre, Barry.

Residents are asked to note the change of location. No appointment is necessary. Anyone not able to attend, can contact Coun Chris Elmore on 07867 506 116, or 01446 402 220

Coping with Bereavement

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Memoria aims to provide help at a time of need at £4m park/crematorium

LAST WEEK, The GEM reported on the official opening of the £4 million Vale of Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, based on Port Road East, Barry.

The company behind the new facility in the Vale is Memoria Ltd.

Its chairman and chief operating officer, Howard Hodgson, explained that the company's aim is to help people when they are facing the most traumatic time in their lives – the loss of a loved one.

"Memoria Limited has a mission to provide exceptional standards of service and facility to the bereaved families that use its Crematoria and Gardens of Remembrance.

"This is because it is not only commercially sensible to do so, but it is also an essential act of human decency towards people who have just lost a much-loved member of their family or friend.

"Bereavement is the price we must all pay for the joy of loving and being loved. The loss of a loved one is the most stressful, unhappy and traumatic experience that we will face in life.

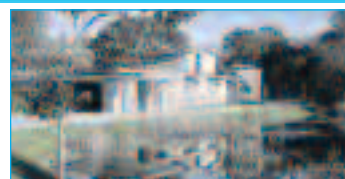
"We at Memoria realise that we are unable to eradicate such pain, but we also know it is our responsibility and duty to be as efficient, kind, respectful and polite as humanly possible to our clients at their time of grief and there-

after, when they return to remember their cherished relatives or friends.

"Therefore, it is our aim to provide immaculately clean and tidy facilities in tranquil and beautiful surroundings, attended by people who are sincerely dedicated to our mission and who take a great pride in their work as a result."

Amlosgfa Llangrallo Coychurch Crematorium

Tel: 01656 656605 Fax: 01656 668108



- A joint Local Authority Crematorium provided by Bridgend County Council, Vale of Glamorgan County Council and Rhondda Cynon Taff County Council. Serving bereaved families from any area, since 1970, with no out of area cremation fee surcharges applied.
- Grade 2* listed building, designed by a world famous architect, displaying world renowned stained glass of breathtaking proportion, set in beautiful grounds. Two impressive chapels with outstanding pipe organs. High tech computerised facilities for recorded music provision, plus audio and video recording and webcasting.
- Providing a comprehensive range of services to the bereaved, catering for all religious or non-religious backgrounds.
- Working closely with families, Funeral Directors, Health Authorities and Voluntary Organisations, the Crematorium aims to meet the needs of the bereaved with compassion, dignity and respect in a tranquil and sympathetic environment.
- At the forefront of the provision of high quality bereavement care, incorporating the latest advances in technology and memorialisation.

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Staff will be pleased to provide further information on the full range of services available at the Crematorium, upon request.

Please address your enquiries to:

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Fax: 01656 668108
Email: joanna.hamilton@bridgend.gov.uk
coychurchcrematorium@bridgend.gov.uk

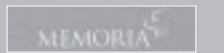
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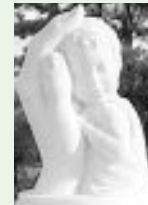
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Coping with Bereavement

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

FUNERAL PLANS CAN EASE THE STRAIN AT A TRAUMATIC TIME

NOTHING can prepare you for the emotional shock of losing someone close, even if the death was expected.

When the bereavement occurs, a funeral for a member of your family will probably be one of the most difficult days of your life.

No one wants to leave their loved ones to deal with the stress

of funeral arrangements and the costs at what is already a difficult time.

That's why pre-paid funeral plans have become so popular, letting you arrange and pay for your funeral in advance, giving peace

of mind to you and your family.

These days, as funeral costs are rising, and everyone has to watch the family budget, finding the most cost-effective way to provide for a funeral is very important.

A pre-paid funeral plan has two major advantages; firstly, by ensuring that no large bill is left for your family; and secondly, knowing that the arrangements which you choose will be carried out exactly as you wish.

"We've seen a steady demand for pre-paid funeral plans," said Lyndsay Ellis of Park Independent Funeral Directors in Barry.

"In tough times, people are more careful and want to make a provision.

"We've also noticed that costs are important and a worry to many couples.

"There are a number of ways in which families can provide cover while minimising the costs.

"One terrific feature of the Golden Charter plan, which we offer, is the ability, at no extra

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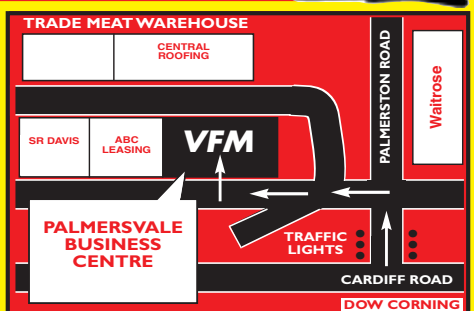
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Cabinet member for visible and building services, Coun Geoffrey Cox, with the Vale Council waste management team.

Council workers produce movie to beat tough recycling targets

VALE Council workers have become movie moguls – in their quest to beat tough recycling targets.

Staff have worked together to produce an in-house video in time for the two-month anniversary of the council's roll-out of mixed recycling (co-mingling).

Mixed recycling (co-mingling) was introduced in the Vale in September, to help the Vale meet the Welsh Government's 52 per cent recycling and composting targets by 2012/13.

But kerbside co-mingling has been such a success, the Vale is on track to beat its targets a year early.

In the first seven weeks after it was rolled out, an extra 43 per cent recycled material went to Biffa's Cardiff recycling plant.

Not content with resting on their laurels, staff want to make inroads into the 2015/16 target of 58 per cent.

They are hoping the short film, which

will be available on the council's website, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, will encourage the Vale's eco-savvy residents to recycle even more.

The film lifts the lid on exactly what happens to the Vale's recycling; from tips about what and how to recycle, to meeting some of the crew who take it away, to seeing how it is sorted at the council's waste management contractors' plant in Cardiff, the full process is laid bare.

Head of visible services, Miles Punter said: "We made the film on a shoestring budget to hopefully educate, entertain and engage our residents."

"It is vital to help them understand the difference that diverting material from landfill makes. Their actions today will impact on generations to come."

Cabinet member for visible and building services, Coun Geoffrey Cox, said: "By making the film available through social media, as well as on the council's website, we hope it will reach a more diverse audience and give residents a sim-

ple way to share the recycling message; encouraging even more people to get on board with our popular co-mingling service."

Mr Punter said the efforts of eco-savvy residents in the Vale of Glamorgan have exceeded the expectations of council staff. He added: "The tremendous efforts of the residents have resulted in us being on the way to beating our recycling targets a year early. Our target for 2015/16 is 58 per cent, which I think is achievable much sooner."

"If this trend continues, we could soon be leading the way in Wales, not just south Wales, for recycling once again."

To watch the video, visit www.vale-of-glamorgan.gov.uk, or Facebook www.facebook.com/valeofglamorganlife or Twitter @VOGCouncil. You can also get in touch by email: visible@vale-of-glamorgan.gov.uk or by telephoning: 01446 700 111.

Research that traps festive drink-drivers

PICTURED (left to right, back row): Ian Jones, managing director; Dr Paul Williams, international marketing director.

Front row: Mark Abella, Lion Laboratories and Alun Cairns MP



VALE MP Alun Cairns visited Lion Laboratories in Barry, ahead of the annual drink-driving campaign, to find out more about the firm behind the breathalysing technologies used by police.

Lion Laboratories, based on the Ty Verlon Industrial Estate in Barry, is a successful specialist in the field of breath alcohol analysis.

It supplies much of the equipment used by the UK Police, and export to 70 countries worldwide, through a network of local distributors.

Mr Cairns said: "It was really interesting to find out how the breath-testing units have been

developed. Ian Jones, the managing director, and Dr Paul Williams the international marketing director, highlighted business development issues and concerns that I will look to raise with the Minister back in Westminster."

The Vale MP heard first-hand from the directors how the local firm, established in the early 1970s now employs 77 people at the Barry research and manufacturing site.

Mr Cairns added: "It was good to hear about the new technologies they are developing, including the 'Interlock' device which is fitted as an ignition immobiliser on commercial vehicles."

"The directors expressed concerns regarding potential

growth opportunities within the European marketplace and I will be raising these issues with the Minister."

Dr Paul Williams, international marketing director at Lion Laboratories, said:

"The increasingly competitive world means that Lion has to fight for each order it acquires – whether from police forces at home or abroad."

"It was very useful to talk with Alun, and to explain some of the unfair practices that we occasionally encounter."

"Hopefully, if some of these can be resolved, then not only will this assist Lion directly and the people of Barry we employ – but, of course, UK plc in general."

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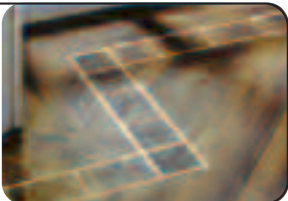
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NEWS AROUND AND ABOUT THE PENARTH AREA

Penarth computer club - bugs!

WHAT is a computer bug? The term 'bug' had been used for any machine malfunction long before computers came along.

Nowadays, it is frequently used in reference to anything that goes wrong with any computer.

To be fair to your computer, you do not

necessarily have a bug just because it didn't do what you expected it to do. Computers are unable to do anything other than EXACTLY what they are told to do.

If you get an unexpected result, first check what you did last and try again. Have yet another go and if that doesn't work you might have a bug.

It could be a virus, of course, but that wouldn't be the computer's

fault, because it is doing exactly what the virus programme is telling it to do.

Bugs are accidental and it is important to make that distinction. Whether it is in the hardware (a manufacturer's error) or in the software (a programmer's error) it is not intentional.

Software is now so complicated that a programme contains millions of lines of code (instructions to the machine).

Before a software package is thought to be ready for sale, many thousands of copies (known as the Beta version) are given to interested users to try out.

This is because everybody uses a computer differently and the

thousands of Beta users will throw up most of any conflicts within the coding before the product is put on the market.

It is basically free research for the company by a lot of willing volunteer helpers.

After-sales use can throw up more conflicts, but hopefully far fewer - and fixable! If it isn't fixable the company might say it's a 'previously undocumented feature' at the next update. As if!

At Harvard in 1945, a computer technician found that a moth had become trapped between two electrical relays (the machine was electromechanical).

He Sellotaped it onto his log page and noted it as: "First actual case of a bug being found".

His boss thought it was very apt and she (yes, she: Rear Admiral Grace Murray Hopper, a mathematician) related the story frequently thereafter in her talks.

She certainly wasn't the first (Edison the inventor popularised it long before.)

The famous Millennium Bug arose because early programmes used two digits to identify the year (say 71 for 1971) and 00 for 2000 was expected to give the computer problems it couldn't handle.

A lot of time and money was spent to avoid the havoc predicted. It was either very successful or wasted, depending on one's view as planes didn't actually fall out of the sky.

In 1993, Intel, the computer chip manufacturer, had a bug within the maths part of its Pentium chip, which caused a very slight (0.06%) inaccuracy in the calculation of some ranges of numbers.

Most users would never have been affected, but it nevertheless cost the company \$475 million dollars.

The next meeting is on December 13 at All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth. 7.30pm for 8pm. It's a 'Chips and Chat' social evening. For more information telephone 029 20708439.

HOWARD DESMOND

Ashgrove celebrate Christmas!

THE next meeting of Ashgrove Family Support Group (launched by Ashgrove school, in partnership with SNAP Cymru) will be held on Monday, December 12, at 11am-1pm.

All are welcome from across south Wales, including parents, carers and extended families.

This month will see the near completion of all aspects in the family room, available for families of pupils from Ashgrove and mainstream schools, supported by the Outreach team. They will be celebrating Christmas, sharing stories, drinking tea and munching mince pies at Sully Road, Penarth.

VALEWAYS

Talygarn park and lake walk, is on Tuesday, December 13 at 2pm, starting in the first car park at the bottom of Fishponds Hill, Porthkerry.

New Year's Day winter walk on Sunday, January 1 at 1pm, starting at St Peter's Church, Mill Road, Dinas Powys.

Penarth and District Ramblers' round-up

FOR the first time in its history, the Ramblers' popular festival of winter walks begins on Christmas Eve.

The Penarth and District group invite you to join them on walks listed below:

On December 26, meet at 10.30am at the Woodland Trust car park on the Michaelston-le-Pit lane for a five-mile easy linear walk to explore Caerau hill fort and the ruined St Mary's; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

December 27, meet at 10am at Llantwit Major railway/bus station for a five-mile moderate coastal and inland walk in the Llantwit area; contact Barbara on 01446 794313.

On December 28, meet at 10am at the Knap car terrace, Barry (by the pebble beach) for a four-mile moderate walk taking in Romilly Park, St Curig's Church and Porthkerry Park; contact Val H on 029

2051 3274.

December 29, meet at 10am at Penarth Cliff top car park for a four-mile easy walk along the coast to Lavernock nature reserve and the old ruined gun emplacements; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

On December 31, meet at 9am at the Barry Waterfront for a full-day eight-10-mile moderate walk in the northwest Vale of Glamorgan; contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

January 1, celebrate New Year's Day by meeting at 10am at the Millwood entrance, Dinas Powys (bottom of the Pen-y-Turnpike Road) for a three-four-mile moderate walk to the remains of Dinas Powys hill fort and the glorious Park Wood; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

January 2, meet at 10am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a four-mile easy walk around the bustling cosmopolitan Cardiff Bay and Barrage; contact

Jan/John on 01446 418514. On January 4, meet 9.30am at the Viaduct car Park, Porthkerry Park for an 8.5-mile moderate walk to East Aberthaw with lunch at the Blue Anchor as an incentive; contact William on 01446 747239.

Weather permitting, the public can join Penarth and District Ramblers for either a longer or shorter walk this coming Saturday.

On December 10, meet at 9am at the Barry Waterfront for an 8.5-mile moderate walk taking in Llantwit Major and Cowbridge; contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

On December 10 also, meet at 10am at St Lawrence Church, Lavernock Point for a four-mile easy walk at Lavernock beach and Cosmeston Park; contact Gerard on 029 2070 8248 (and not Joy as in your programme).

JOY

STRANGWARD

Packed diary looms for the Penarth mayor

MAYOR of Penarth, Coun Anthony Ernest, has a busy time ahead in the run-up to Christmas.

He will be attending a Christmas carol service at Penarth's oldest church, St. Peter's Old Cogan, on Friday December 9, while on Saturday he joins the St. Augustine's Church Christmas tree festival at the Parish Hall, and is cutting a ribbon to open the event.

December 11, the Mayor joins Cosmeston church for their annual service in the mediaeval village at Cosmeston Park; while on December 12 he will be present at the opening night of Stanwell School's performance of 'Phantom of the Opera', which well known actor Peter Karrie will also attend.

December 14 is the occasion for the annual RNLI service of readings and carols at St. Augustine's, and Coun Ernest, the founder chairman of Penarth RNLI Station, will read a lesson.

The Mayor will also attend several functions outside Penarth as an invited guest over the next three weeks, in addition to regular council business meetings.

Pat on back for town businesses

PENARTH businesses that responded to the mayor's call for prizes for the big raffle at his recent charity quiz, in the Paget Rooms, have been praised.

Coun Anthony Ernest reported: "It was a cracking evening and we raised over £750 for my two charitable causes, Ashgrove School and 'Help for Heroes'.

We also had a superb raffle with around 40 prizes, each one generously donated by businesses in Penarth Town Centre, all of whom responded magnificently to my call for a gift."

The quiz was won yet again by old favourite PODS.



Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern volunteers

'Depend' volunteers win festive praise

LOCAL volunteers recently attended a celebration in Dinas Powys to mark their efforts in the community.

Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern organised a mulled wine and mince pie reception at the Lee Hall and 50 volunteers who deliver the charity's community newsletter, Depend, across the community were invited.

The Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern charity was founded nearly 40 years ago to serve the needs of the elderly and less mobile members of the village community.

The chairman of Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern and editor of Depend, John Fanshaw, thanked the volunteers for their dedication to ensuring that Depend is delivered, efficiently and quickly and in all weathers to 8,000 resi-

dents. New volunteers are always welcome. Murchfield Hall, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys. Contact Wendy Lees, on 02920 513700, or call in to the office located to

LIFESAVER AWARDS NIGHT



Jennie Pitt was one of the winners at the Llantwit Major Lifesavers' awards evening - (SEE THE FULL REPORT ON PAGE 25)

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St Andrews Major school welcomes its visitors from France and Italy

VALE MP Alun Cairns was invited to visit St Andrew's Major C/W Primary School in Dinas Powys to meet some international guests.

The visitors were attending the school as part of the Comenius Project, in association with the British Council.

Mr Cairns met headteacher Sue Jordan, staff and children as they welcomed visitors from Pluguggan in Brittany and Passo Corese in Italy as part of the Comenius Project.

The project aims to develop knowledge and understanding among young people and teachers about the diversity of European cultures and languages, and the value of diversity.

Alun Cairns said: "I was delighted to be

invited by Mrs Karen Lewis, a teacher governor at St Andrew's C/W Primary School to join them over lunch to meet pupils taking part in the Comenius Project.

"I had the warmest welcome from the staff and team at the school, and the children epitomised the school's ethos of enjoyment for learning in a happy and caring environment.

"As part of the Comenius Project, the pupils had created a great video, highlighting the bilingual nature of Wales, which helped the visitors to develop their knowledge and understanding of the language and culture here in Wales."



Alun Cairns MP and staff from St Andrew's Major Primary School and teachers from Brittany and Italy.

Pupils' festive surprise for deprived children

THE children of Y Bont Faen school managed to donate 110 shoe box gifts to the Christmas Child Samaritans shoe box appeal, and these were collected recently and will be winging their way to either Africa or Eastern bloc countries to give needy children a nice surprise for Christmas.

Well done and thank you for all of your support in this wonderful scheme!

The pupils have also once again taken part in the Christmas Tree Festival (right) in Holy Cross Church with the theme this year of hearts.

JM



Barry Ladies are pipped in close Cup local derby

ON a day of mixed weather and a pitch that was looking the worse for it, Barry Ladies 'The Bombettes' faced Seaview Ravens for the second time in a month in the first round of the Blues Cup.

Yet again, it was a match worth watching, with both teams playing some outstanding rugby.

With the wind at their backs and the slope to their advantage, Barry Bombettes quickly applied pressure, reaching the Seaview try line within minutes.

Seaview managed to get the ball away, but Barry continued the attack from the half-way line.

Barry though they had scored when Peters, supported by Cole, crossed the line, but it was disallowed by the referee.

This didn't dampen Barry's spirit, as they continued to show the teamwork they are developing a reputation for.

Seaview, with their heavier pack, were powerful in the scrums and this allowed them to win ball from both put-ins. They scored an unconverted try from a well-rehearsed move just before half time.

With the biting wind, players were eager to start the second half.

Within minutes, Seaview Ravens had kicked the ball over Barry's try line, quickly chased by the Ravens' No 10 and Barry's Peters.

The bounce favoured

Seaview, who smartly grounded the ball.

This was again unconverted.

With 25 minutes to go, Barry had to make some major positional changes as their captain Boffy went off with a broken leg after being trapped in a ruck.

Jones came in as flanker, Nation came onto the wing and the remainder of the team had a major reshuffle, as there were no more substitutes.

This meant many players were playing out of position at a crucial time of the match. Seaview put persistent pressure on Barry, taking scrum after scrum on Barry's five-metre line; but Barry maintained their strong defence, with K Jones grounding a ball just before Seaview's No 8.

Despite Seaview's best efforts, the score remained 10-0.

Special mention should go to Morgan, who made her inaugural appearance as hooker, Jemma Jones on her Barry debut in the second row and to Bindley for manning the kitchen.

It was nice to see Seaview enjoying the after match festivities.

Players of the match: Barry chose Stacey Horne, Seaview chose Judie Cole.

Squad: Richards, Morgan, Horne, Cuniffe, J Jones, Eidmanns-Ford, Boffy (captain), Cole, Bannister, Rees, K Jones, Yapp, Peters, Linton, Hill. Substitutes: Harris, Nation and Williams. RB

'War of attrition' in delayed squash final

THE men's final for 2011 took place at Cowbridge Squash Club on Monday night, before an enthusiastic audience.

The event had been delayed since May, following an injury to Nick Guard but the two finalists, Nick and Jon Bisson, gave a good demonstration of the finer points of the game.

The early encounters pointed towards a war of attrition – and it was close on 15 minutes before Bisson managed to assert his authority on the match.

The second game was similar, with

Bisson's fast running and hard-hitting game being offset by Guard's wily crosses and drop shots.

Finally, Nick Guard managed to get the upper hand in the third game and eventually closed down the match in the fourth.

Both players gave a good account of themselves and personified why this current Cowbridge team is so hard to beat in the South Wales Leagues.

Best of luck to all the teams in their final few matches of the first half of this season.

CLIVE PRIGG

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (STATION STREET, BARRY) (DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2011

- On the 29th November 2011 The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 45, 46 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described below:
- The Order will come into operation on 12th December 2011, or on the date the necessary signs are removed, whichever is the later.
- A copy of the Order and plans showing the affected areas may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.
- If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 12th December 2011 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows:

The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Various Locations, Vale of Glamorgan) (Disabled Persons Parking Places) (No.1) Order 2005, the following paragraph to be deleted from the Schedule:

Station Street, Barry

On its southwestern side from a point approximately 98 metres northwest of its junction with the northwestern side of Dock View Road, northwestwards for a distance of 6.6 metres.

Dated this 8th day of December 2011.

M. Punter
Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe CF5 6AA



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990 Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Development that may affect a Conservation Area / Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No/ Rhif y cais:	2011/01167/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig:	Demolition of existing double garage and construction of new. Replacement of existing conservatory to rear elevation. Formation of new glazed openings to ground floor and first floor rear elevations. Installation of solar thermal roof panels
Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	93, Plymouth Road, Penarth Penarth

Conservation Area Consent / Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No/ Rhif y cais:	2011/01168/CAC
Proposal/Cynnig:	Demolition of existing double garage and construction of new. Replacement of existing conservatory to rear elevation. Formation of new glazed openings to ground floor and first floor rear elevations. Installation of solar thermal roof panels
Location/Lleoliad: Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth	93, Plymouth Road, Penarth Penarth

Listed Building Consent / Caniatâd Adeilad Rhedredig

Application No/ Rhif y cais:	2011/01146/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig:	Renewal of listed building consent 2006/00813/LBC for conversion to 8 No. apartments
Location/Lleoliad: Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhedredig	Glendale Hotel, 10, Plymouth Road, Penarth Grade II
Application No/ Rhif y cais:	2011/01153/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig:	Conversion of rear annexe coach house at lower ground floor level from restaurant storage room into two bed residential apartment. One new full height glazed screen in south elevation and one new rooflight to match two existing
Location/Lleoliad:	Glendale Hotel and Villa Napoli Restaurant, 10, Plymouth Road, Penarth
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhedredig	Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest / Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No/ Rhif y cais:	2011/01140/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig:	Remove two existing agricultural buildings, erect cattle shed, straw shed, slurry storage, a maize and grass silage clamp and the creation of two outdoor yards.
Location/Lleoliad:	Llwynhelig Farm, Cowbridge

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Dated / Dyddiedig: 8th December, 2011

Rob Thomas
Head of Planning, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

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CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2011 GORCHYMYN (DIWYGIEDIG) (MAN PARCIO AR GYFER POBL ANABL) (STATION STREET, Y BARRI)

- Ar 29 Tachwedd 2011, gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan adranau 45, 46 a 53 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwygiedig), a phob p_er galluogi arall, Orchymyn i'r diben cyffredinol a ddisgrifir isod:
- Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 12 Rhagfyr 2011, neu ar ddyddiad symud yr arwyddion angenrheidiol os daw ar ôl hynny.
- Cewch weld copi o'r Gorchymyn a chynlluniau sy'n dangos yr ardal oedd dan sylw yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.
- Os hoffech ddadlau'n erbyn dilyswydd y Gorchymyn, neu'i ddarpariaethau am na chredwch fod gan y ddeddf uchod b_e i'w gweithredu, neu am y tbyhwch eu bod yn methu â chydymffurfio â gofynion y ddeddf uchod, neu un o'i hofferfyrnau, bydd gennych chwe wythnos o 12 Rhagfyr 2011 i wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys i'r diben hwnnw.

ATODLEN

Diwygier y Gorchymyn Rheoli Traffig canlynol fel y canlyn:

Gorchymyn (Rhif 1) (Mannau Parcio ar gyfer Pobl Anabl) (Lleoliadau Amrywiol, Bro Morgannwg) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2005: dilêr y paragraff canlynol o'r Atodlen:

Station Street, Y Barri

Ar ei hochr dde-orllewinol o fan sydd oddeutu 98 metr i'r gogledd orllewin o'i chyffordd ag ochr ogledd-orllewinol Dock View Road am 6.6 metr i gyfeiriad y gogledd orllewin.

Dyddiedig 8 Rhagfyr 2011.

M. Punter
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Canolfan yr Alpau,
Gwenfô CF5 6AA



NEWS AROUND ABOUT THE LOCAL SCHOOLS

DRAMA STUDENTS TACKLE CLASSIC BRITISH MUSICAL

B A R R Y
Comprehensive School's Creative Arts Faculty have done it again – with their wonderful production of *Evita*.

Over three nights, audiences experienced the powerful story of Eva Peron, brought to life, through narration by the character Che Guevara.

With music written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice, including 'Don't Cry for me Argentina', it was no wonder parents, family, friends and special guests, rose in appreciation of the talented cast.

For a few, this was their last performance – Jack Feureisen, who played Che, was amazing. Jared Cornish as Peron, gave an outstanding performance and Rosie-Loup James, was mesmerising as *Evita*.

All three will be leaving next year and moving on to university. Jack and Jared are hoping to earn places at leading London drama schools.

The rest of the cast deserve a great round of applause for being such an engaging chorus. The school orchestra provided live accompaniment, adding atmosphere and impact throughout the show.

The productions at Barry Comprehensive strive to provide top quality entertainment and the creative arts team are proud of what their students achieve.

On the last night, as they left the stage, the question on everyone's lips was "what are we



ABOVE:
'The Art of the Possible' – Peron's Military Men.

LEFT:
'Don't Cry For Me Argentina' – Rosie-Loup James, was totally mesmerising as *Evita*.

RIGHT:
Jared Cornish as Peron, gave an outstanding performance.

BELOW: 'Oh, What a Circus' – Jack Feureisen, who played Che, was truly amazing



doing next?" The team won't be idle for long, with a Christmas carol service on December 14, and sixth form students will be performing an exciting new production of *Macbeth* in the New Year – not to be missed.

We hope the Barry community will continue to support and enjoy the hard work created by the students and staff at Barry Comprehensive, because without you, it's not worth doing!

AC

Interschools cross-country



Silver medal for the senior boys team; Matthew Edwards, Elliot Clissold, Matthew Collins, Jack Bloomfield, Curtis Hayes and Gareth Crapnell

BARRY
Comprehensive School pupils recently competed in the Welsh Interschools Cross Country Championships at Brecon.

The boys, running in three age categories, competed against schools from all around Wales.

The junior team members were Joseph Hewings, Harry Carter, Tom Pitman and Ethan Lovell and the middle team were Gareth Hurman, A J Harry and John Wardle.

The senior team of Matthew Edwards, Elliot Clissold, Matthew Collins, Jack Bloomfield, Curtis Hayes and Gareth Crapnell had great success, winning the team silver medal.

Matthew Edwards gained the individual fourth position in the senior boys age group.

AC



Junior boys; Joseph Hewings, Harry Carter, Tom Pitman and Ethan Lovell.



Middle boys; Gareth Hurman, A J Harry and John Wardle.

Rhws pupils present their Nativity concert

RECEPTION children at Rhws Primary School gave an outstanding performance in their Nativity concert for parents and fellow pupils at the school.

'The Bossy Christmas Fairies' tells the story of three fairies who dictate what is and isn't suitable for their tree.

They discard a rejects' box those decorations which in their opinion are not suitable because of looks; they even discard the Nativity figures!

But they learn the lesson that what is meaningful and precious isn't always that which looks good.

This musical involved children from the Reception classes; in singing, speaking and acting parts, and all dressed gloriously in their colourful costumes.

There wasn't a dry eye in the house and the concert certainly left the audience crying out for more!

KELSEY BIBBY



WAITING FOR THEIR CUE!

Barrivale Bridge Club round-up

THE latest results from Barrivale are as follows:

Tuesday, November 29.

First, Betty Lewis and Denis Mottram with 68.06 per cent. In second were Jane Brook and Sean MacDougall (54.86) and in third were Helen Jordan and Maureen Charlton (50 per cent). Betty and Denis also won on handicap

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, telephone 01446 733425.

Palmerston school greets visiting European teachers

PALMERSTON Primary school welcomed a visiting group of teachers recently from Poland, Latvia, Romania and Denmark.

It was a busy, but fun-filled week which included a trip to meet Welsh Assembly AM Jane Hutt, who gave them an informative tour of the Senedd.

The group was given a warm welcome by the children who greeted them with Welsh songs and a taste of Welsh culture.

Pupils also had a chance to ask questions about European schools and cultures. A common love of Doctor Who resulted from a visit to the year-4 class!

Evenings were spent getting to grips with Welsh folk dancing,



which had everyone laughing.

Palmerston School hopes that this trip will result in a two-year European 'Comenius'

project, which will be an opportunity to extend understanding of other cultures and global citizenship.

Headteacher Mark

Middlemiss commented: "It was an excellent experience, and a valuable opportunity to share good practice between schools. I hope

to continue this partnership and all concerned will benefit from learning about each other's methodologies – and make new friends, too."

Successful year for Llantwit lifesavers



Chairman Huw Beynon.



Bob Millard.

MEMBERS young and old, and parents, and grandparents, gathered together at the Llantwit Major Lifesaving beach clubhouse recently to celebrate a successful 2011.

Most importantly, the club maintained a successful summer of

patrols with no serious casualties. Llantwit Major Surf Lifesaving Club provided lifeguard cover and first aid facilities for the public visiting the beach, patrolling 58 sessions on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings and afternoons. In total, 55 different people helped out giving a total of 844 voluntary hours, as well as additional support from

Atlantic College in August to ensure the safety of the beach. There were also many awards given on the night, including congratulations to 21 adults who passed beach lifeguard exams this summer from the **Full NARS Beach Lifeguard award, the Surf Lifesaver award and EA2 First Aider awards**, many of whom

took these exam for the first time.

These qualifications were possible due to the time taken coaching the individuals to their award, and these new skills will add to another successful summer of beach patrols in 2012.

In fact, the first senior award – the **Priority Bowl** – was awarded to Bob Millard for his consistent support to the training programme throughout the summer as well his regular presence patrolling on the beach.

The next award was the ladies award – the **Ivy Downey Plate** – which was awarded to Jennie Pitt who became the joint junior coordinator, as well as finding the time to pass her EA2 first aid qualification, her level one coaching award, in addition to being a regular presence at junior training and patrols on Llantwit Major beach.

The last senior club award – the **Ruby Trophy** – is one only given away from time to time and this year it has been awarded to someone whose presence of mind made a light of a potentially life threatening situation – lifeguard Stuart Wilkes.

He noticed a teenager struggling out of her depth and approached her. As he came close she appeared to faint and slip under the water. By now he was close by and managed to grasp her and pull her to the beach, and



Olivia Insole, Lauren Prynn and Tamara Pitt.

luckily, after receiving paramedic treatment, she quickly recovered.

Lastly, unworried by awards but in need of a mention are the people who make it possible for the club to keep all its activities going. These are the coaches, patrollers, the patrol rota and the website maintenance.

Awards list:
Best newcomer: Rhys Richards and Caitlin O'Callaghan;
most improved: Sean McKenna, Tom Insole, Tegan Jennings and Amy Robson;

most determined finishers: William Thomas, Ruby Lilly and Abigail Baker;

nippers' nipper of the year: Grace Insole;
coaches' nipper of the year: Braden Bennett and Millie Wiggins;

Dafydd Saunders Trophy: Grace Insole
nipper captain: Grace Insole.

Junior of the year: There were three recipients of the award; Olivia Insole, Lauren Prynn

and Tamara Pitt. All three girls had competed in the Welsh and GB Stillwater competitions earlier in the year and then went on to compete in the Welsh and GB Ocean Championships. They did extremely well, and Tamara received a silver medal in the Welsh and a bronze in the GB's for the beach sprints.

The winner of the 'Croyde Rock' was Braiden Bennett. This award is presented to the most improved junior member. Braiden has come on leaps and bounds in all aspects of his training and he completed his junior lifesaver award as well this year. He has proved himself to be a dedicated member of the club.

For all Llantwit Major Surf Lifesaving Club new member enquiries or to find out more about joining the nippers, log on to <http://www.llantwitmajorsurf.org.uk> or email sarah@thomas25.orangehome.co.uk.

Bridgend town cricket club awards night

SIMON Jones, the Glamorgan and England fast bowler, was a guest at the annual presentation night for the Bridgend junior section.

The under-15 section played in the DC Thomas South Wales Cup and also South Wales Junior Cricket League under-16 Zone D.

20 players represented the club, all under 15 years of age, joined by under-16 player Amy Roberts.

Results:- under-16 league: played 14, won 10, lost three abandoned one.

Losses were to Tondur and Port Talbot Town, and they finished third in the league.

In the under-15 cup:- the team reached finals day in Pontardulais by beating the previous season's winners Mumbles in the preliminary round, followed by wins over Bronnmydd, Llanelli and Ynystawe.

Only one of these games was at home against Llanelli.

We played Ynysgerwyn in the final, who were 96 all out.

Bridgend's response went down to the last ball, at 95 for 8.

A single would have tied the scores and left us victors having lost one fewer wickets – the final result was that Bridgend lost by a run.

The umpires were hugely impressed with both the standard of cricket and the spirit in which the game was played.

The under-15s manager/coach Chris

Roberts' highlights of the season were:- Sam Pearce and John Roberts chasing 28 runs against Maesteg Celtic; Sam Pearce scored a four and a six off the last two balls of the innings to register a win with six wickets to spare.

Owen Davies (70 runs not out) giving us victory at Mumbles in the opening match of the under-15s cup, while Archie Yates (57 runs not out) and Sam Shepherd (26 not out) helped to beat Tondur.

Strong bowling performances came from Sam Pearce (four for five against Bronnmydd) and Archie Yates (three for four against Llanelli).

John Roberts, Dan Donnelly and Tom Dalton took three wickets in short spells with outstanding fielding performances.

Representation:-

Archie Yates – Cardiff and the Vale under-15s; Troy Smith, John Roberts and Owen Davies – Mid Glamorgan under-15s; Sam Pearce – Wales under-14s.

The vast majority of the squad have represented the senior teams this season.

Tom Dalton and Sam Pearce have played in first team games, while Owen Davies has been a regular in the seconds this year. Troy Smith, Tom Hill and John Roberts played for 3rds, and Sam Shepherd and Ieuan Potts for the 4ths.

The following awards were presented by Simon Jones. Under-16s Player of the Year – Owen Davies.

Owen has played in the vast majority of games this season, represented Mid Glamorgan and been involved with the seniors at 2nd eleven level.

While opening and clearly having the opportunity to score runs, he has contributed 536 runs in 16 innings, with an average of 54 runs and a highest score of 72 not out.

In addition, he continues to keep wicket to a high standard and was awarded the man of the match in our cup final defeat.

Under-16s Clubperson of the Year – Amy Roberts.

Amy represented Mid Glamorgan and Wales (Ladies) under-16s and played nine games at under-16s accompanied by her contributions off the field including UKCC Level 1 Coaching.

Under-16s Batting Award – Tom Hill.

Batting at number three or four, Tom scored 245 runs with an average of 21, and a highest score of 50 not out.

Under-16s Bowling Award – Archie Yates.

Archie bowled consistently well throughout the season, playing in 13 games with overall figures of 35 overs, six maidens, 16 wickets for 107 runs; average per wicket of six to seven runs.

Many thanks for the support and contribution during the season to Nigel Clayton, John Davies, Alun Bunston, Andy Marvell, Bradley Wadlan, Andrew Davies and all our loyal supporters. C.B.D

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT, AND WHERE?

Mr Tony Clemo – **Hillandale, Pen Y Turnpike Road, Dinas Powys** – Upgrade and extend the existing lodge adjacent to Hillandale.

Mr M Davies – **1 Ewenny Road, Wick** – Proposed alterations and extension to existing front and rear roof dormers.

Mr John Lee – **Pensarn, Llanmaes** – Proposed loft conversion and alterations to roof on front elevation.

Mr Trevor Taylor – **Land at Hill Farm Nr Hensol** – The erection of two agricultural buildings and associated farm track and entrance improvements.

Penllyn Estate Farm – **Llwynhelig Farm, Cowbridge** – Remove two existing agricultural buildings, erect cattle shed, straw shed, slurry storage, a maize and grass silage clamp and the creation of two outdoor yards.

Mr Matthew Turner – **Quince Cottage, Llysorweny** – Two storey and single storey extensions towards the rear of the house, including external detached car port.

Mr Griffiths – **4 Clive Crescent, Penarth** – Various works to trees.

Mr Jeffrey Green – **Ashleigh, Mill Road, Dinas Powys** – Remove a conifer. Mrs Owen – **Sea Roads, Cliff Parade, Penarth** – Works to various trees.

version to 8 no. apartments. Tony Apollonio – **Glendale Hotel, 10 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – Renewal of listed building consent 2006/00813/LBC for conversion to 8 no. apartments.

Mr Tristin Willis – **Land opposite Pencoeindre Lane residential development, Port Road, Barry** – Removal of 5 trees, 2 x ash, hawthorn, sycamore and oak.

Ms Michelle Russ – **Fir Tree Cottage, The Lane, The Downs, St Nicholas** – Erection of first floor bathroom extension.

Mr David Taylor – **20 Dylan Close, Llandough** – Conversion of four bed dwelling house to form four 2 bed apartments and extension to building.

Mr Anthony Pritchard – **9 Archer Road, Penarth** – Article four application for replacement of front door.

Mr Anmed – **41 Waun Ganol, Penarth** – Additional windows and alterations to doors and window.

Mr John Baker – **Walnut Tree House, Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys** – Convert double garage/storage building with loft to granny annex. Mr Tony Apollonio – **Glendale Hotel and Villa Napoli Restaurant, 10 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – Conversion of rear annex coach house at lower ground floor level from restaurant storage room into tow bed residential apartment. One new full height glazed screen in south elevation

and one new rooflight to match two existing. Mr and Mrs Bernhard Moser – **37 Whitcliffe Drive, Penarth** – Single storey rear extension to provide kitchen dining area.

Mr Desmond Deane – **173 Lavernock Road, Penarth** – Alter rear annex hipped roof to full gable.

Mr J and Mrs J Webb – **The Jays, 7 Wick Road, Ewenny** – Erection of dwelling.

Mr Andrew Hall – **60 Stanwell Road, Penarth** – Dismantle and rebuild chimney.

Mr Susan Burston – **66 St Davids Crescent, Penarth** – Proposed siting of a caravan for ancillary residential use.

Mr Deri Ap Hywel – **Ynys Dawel, Leckwith** – Loft conversion of existing domestic dwelling comprising of rear dormer and hip removed to form gable end.

Mrs Victoria Meadows – **1 Rheidol Drive, Barry** – Proposed first floor extension, single storey rear extension and associated alteration works.

Mr Dafydd Rhodri Davies – **Rosedale Farm, Llantwit Major** – Extension of steel frame portal building for storage of combine harvester and other expensive machinery from winter elements.

Mrs Parr – **42 Britway Road, Dinas Powys** – Loft conversion with rear and side dormers. Mrs Holder – **East Down Farm Cottage, East Down Farm, St Hilary** –

Replacement conservatory to rear. Mr Bert Roberts – **45 Fontygary Road, Rhose** – New detached dwelling on land at the rear of 45 Fontygary Road, Rhose.

Mr and Mrs R Warren-Cox – **93 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – Demolition of existing double garage and construction of new.

Replacement of existing conservatory to rear elevation. Formation of new glazed openings to ground floor and first floor rear elevations. Installation of solar thermal roof panels.

T J Kinsey & Sons – **Cwm Derwen, Weycock Road, Barry** – Farmworkers dwelling.

Mr and Mrs Fahy – **Ty'r Ysgol, Maendy, Cowbridge** – Two storey extension to front elevation (west). New chimney stack to existing north elevation.

Mr Paul Skucek – **12 Wordsworth Close, Llantwit Major** – Proposed conversion of attic to living space.

Dow Corning Ltd – **Cardiff Road, Barry** – Construct tank and tanker bay with rack link to existing W309 process plant structure.

Mr G Day – **1 Wessex Place, Barry** – Retention and completion of boundary wall.

Ms R Lord – **Yr Hen Felin, Dyffryn** – Demolition of existing garage and erection of two storey extension. New 'turret' to rear elevation to enlarge existing wc and create larger landing areas.

Valad Developments (Llantrisant) Ltd – **Land adjacent to Cowbridge Road and A473 (inc. Leakes Department Store, former Purolite Works and Staedter Factory Site), Talbot Green** – Development of new town centre comprising a 10,801 sq m gross foodstore (Class A1); 8 pump petrol filling station; 35,522 sq m gross retail floor space (Class A1); 600sq m gross cafe space (Class A1); 1,00 sq m financial/professional service space (Class A2); 2,390 sq m gross food and drink space (Class A3); 1,400 sq m gross office space (Class B1); 750 sq m gross Class D1 space; 8 screen cinema; 80 bed hotel; 64 dwellings (Class C2/C3); multi storey and surface level car parking; associated access infrastructure, re-profiling of land, landscaping and floor alleviation works.

Mr Chris Adkin – **19 Church Meadow, Boverton** – Orangery to rear of property.

Skyasset Limited – **Marine Building, Penarth** – Conversion and extension of existing derelict fire and water damaged building to create a hotel, with 55 bedrooms, a cafeteria and wine bar. To include the retention of the building's northern and western facades, reconstruction of the roof and chimneys to the original design, construction of side and rear extensions and creation of car parking and landscaped external areas.

Mr Gareth Williams – **2**

Spencer Drive, Llandough

First floor extension to front and side of dwelling, including conversion of garage to lounge.

Dow Corning Ltd – **Cardiff Road, Barry** – Construct open steel frame supporting process vessels and equipment as an extension to existing W406 building.

Mr Granville John – **158 Westbourne Road, Penarth** – Retrospective application for a garden studio room at rear of garage.

Mr A Fitt – **194 Westbourne Road, Penarth** – Single storey rear extension.

Dr C Morgan and Mrs B Morgan – **Belgrave House, Factory Road, Llanblethian** – Demolition of existing detached double garage and construct a new three bedroom detached (two storey) dwelling.

Dr C Morgan and Mrs B Morgan – **Belgrave House, Factory Road, Llanblethian** – Demolition of existing detached double garage.

Mr S and Mrs G Tuck – **Rear of 1 Elfed Avenue, Penarth** – New dwelling.

Mr Edward Evans – **16 Adenfield Way, Rhose** – Single storey extension to rear of house.

Mr Mike Taylor – **Bus Depot, Broad Street, Barry** – Application for consent to display an advertisement.

Allt Isaf Alpacas – **Greenfields Farm, Peterston Super Ely** – Proposed building.

Mr G Robbins – **Marlborough Grange Farm, Crossways, Cowbridge** – Erection of

farmworkers dwelling. E-tricity Limited – **Penllyn Estate Farm, Llwynhelig, Penllyn** – Installation and operation of a solar photovoltaic array and associated equipment with a maximum array height of 2.6m and a maximum installed capacity of 50kW.

Mr Stuart Creedon – **65 Highwalls Avenue, Dinas Powys** – Single storey extension to side and rear of existing building.

Demolition of existing buildings to rear of property. Mr Wilton – **31 Caer Odyon, Dinas Powys** – Lean-to conservatory to rear.

Mr Wiles – **Holmlea, Penylan Road, Aberthryn** – Replace existing porch with flat roof conservatory.

Harris Pye UK Ltd – **Units 5 and 6, Sutton Road, Llandow** – The north facing doors of the hangars will be replaced with corrugated walling similar to the south end with a single roller door in each hangar.

Mr Maloney – **10 Park Road, Penarth** – Undertake 2m overall crown reduction. Install non-invasive bracing system to strengthen potentially weak fork to Corsican pine T4.

United Free Church – **Rear of 21 Westgate, Cowbridge** – Demolish existing single storey rear extension, construct new single storey extension to incorporate new entrance foyer, meeting room kitchen and toilets.

It was on Brian Jones's *Montana Gold* in September that Tom

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM 14th December 2011

Vale of Glamorgan Council Rhondda Housing Association Newydd Housing Association
United Welsh Wales and Mid Wales Housing Association

To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at
HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
or apply in writing to:

Vale of Glamorgan Council
Legal, Public Protection and Housing Department
Civic Offices Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or
Newydd Housing Association
121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

ARTHUR DAVIES COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 997473
Suit for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets
• Studio apartment
• First floor (no lift)
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Warden/parking
• Communal entrance
Rent £93.73 per week including service charge

BARRIANS WAY, BARRY

H4U Reference 1081363
Suit for a single person or couple over 40 - no pets
• One-bedroom flat
• Ground floor
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Communal gardens
Rent £64.65 per week including service charges

BOVERTON ROAD, LLANTWIT MJR

H4U Reference 233487
Suitable for a family
• Three-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £94.16 per week including water charges

CAMPBELL COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 768822
Suit for a single person or couple over 40 - no pets
• One-bedroom flat
• Second floor (no lift)
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Communal entrance
• Parking
Rent £77.22 per week including service charge

CWRT MELIN YR RHOS, BARRY

H4U Reference 992899
Suit for a single person or couple over 40 - no pets
• One-bedroom flat
• First floor
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Communal entrance
• Parking
Rent £71.39 per week including service charge

GLYNDWR AVENUE, ST ATHAN

H4U Reference 248688
Suitable for a family
• Three-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £92.67 per week including water charges

HILLSIDE DRIVE, COWBRIDGE

H4U Reference T080326
Suitable for a family
Re-advertised
• Two-bedroom house
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Enclosed rear garden
• Parking
Rent £77.83 per week including service charge

LAUGHARNE COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 214558
Suitable for a family
• Three-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £90.66 per week including water charges

OGMORE PLACE, BARRY

H4U Reference 218633
Suitable for a family
• Two-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £87.89 per week including water charges

OWAIN COURT, ST ATHAN

H4U Reference 249163
Suit for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets
• One-bed flat (adapted)
• Ground floor
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Communal gardens
• Community alarm
Rent £80.07 per week inc water & alarm charges

PENDINE CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 220284
Suitable for a family
• Three-bedroom house
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens
Rent £90.57 per week including water charges

PETERSWELL ROAD, BARRY

H4U Reference 220727
Suit for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets
• One-bedroom flat
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• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
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FEEDBACK

Address	Bids	Band	Reg.
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Dunlin Court	48	Silver+	28/04/10
Hillside Drive	READVERTISED		
Lydstep Road	WITHDRAWN		
Magellan Close	94	Gold+	13/09/11
Main Street	23	Silver	22/07/10
Pontalun Close	31	Silver+	27/09/10
St Pauls Avenue	120	Gold+	21/07/11
Treharne Road	48	Gold	09/07/11

TENSING TERRACE, BARRY

H4U Reference 225882
Suit for a single person or couple over 55 without mobility issues - no pets
• One-bedroom flat
• Gnd floor-steps to door
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens & alarm
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TREHARNE ROAD, BARRY

H4U Reference 226525
Suit for a single person, couple or family - no pets
• Two-bedroom flat
• Ground floor
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Communal gardens
Rent £74.43 per week including water charges

WALKER ROAD, BARRY

H4U Reference 227139
Suit for a single person or couple over 55 without mobility issues. Applicants downsizing given preference.
• One-bed bungalow
• Central heating
• Double glazing
• Gardens & alarm
Rent £88.38 per week inc water & alarm charges

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of these homes.

When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference.

All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness. Newydd is a charitable housing association.



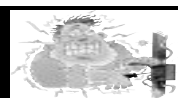
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Deddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref 1990

Gorchymyn Cau Prifffyrdd (Hill Head, Llanilltud Fawr, Bro Morgannwg) 201-

HYSBYSIR DRWY HYN fod Gweinidogion Cymru yn bwriadu gwneud Gorchymyn o dan Adran 247 o Deddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref 1990 yn awdardodi cau'r rhan o briffordd a ddigrifir yn Atodlen 1 i'r Hysbysiad hwn.

Os gwneir y Gorchymyn, nid awdardodir cau'r briffordd ond er mwyn galluogi'r datblygiad a ddigrifir yn Atodlen 2 i'r hysbysiad hwn i gael ei wneud. Idd effaith y Gorchymyn hwn yn pedio os daw'r caniatâd cynllunio i ben neu os caiff ei ddiwygu.

Yn ystod y 28 o ddiwrnodau ar ôl 8 Rhagfyr 2011, gellir arholio copïau o'r Gorchymyn drafft ar plan a adnwyd yn rhad ac am ddim yn swyddfaed Cynor Tref Llanilltud Fawr, neuadd y Dref, Llanilltud Fawr CF61 1SD yn ystod yr oriau agor arholio neu gellir eu cael yn rhad ac am ddim o'r cyfeirnod isod.

Cyn pen y cyfnod uchod o 28 o ddiwrnodau, caiff unrhyw berson, drwy hysbysu'r Ganger Orchymyn, Trafnidiaeth, Lywodraeth Cymru, Parc Cathays, Caerdydd CF10 3NQ, wrthwnebu gwneud y Gorchymyn.

Os ydych yn dymuno gwrthwnebu, celnogi neu gyflwyno sylwadau, efallai y bydd amon angen ymgynghori â phobl a sefydladau y tu allan i Lywodraeth Cymru. Fel rhan o'r broses o ymgynghori ag eidd, bydd yr wybodaeth yn ydych wedi ei rhoi i ni a/d data personol yn cael eu trosglwyddo i'r cysgodwyr datblygu ac yn achlysurol i'r awdardod prifffyrdd lleol i'w galluogi i ymateb i chi. Ni fyddwn, fodd bynnag, yn datguddio'r manylion personol ond pan fo hynny'n angenrheidiol i'n galluogi i ymdrin â'r materion yr ydych wedi tynnu'n sylw atyn. Pan fydd gorchymyn cau yn dod yn destun Ymchwiliad Cyhoeddus (YC), bydd pob gohebiaeth yn cael ei droio i Arollydd yr Ymchwiliad ac fe'i oedwir yn y Llyfrgell YC pan fydd ar gael i'r cyhoedd.

Gellir gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn a'r Hysbysiad yn <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/legislation> (Deddfau: 'Deddfwriaeth', 'Deddfwriaeth', 'Deddfwriaeth ddrafft', 'Gorchymyn Awdardod Drafft', 'Deddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref: Gorchymyn Cau').

M D BURNELL
Trafnidiaeth
Lywodraeth Cymru

Atodlen 1

(Bros amon yw pob mesuriad)

Digrifid o'r rhan o briffordd ydd i'r dau o dan y Gorchymyn hwn.

Rhan o briffordd atedolidd ei wleip yn ystod y 1 Hill Head, Llanilltud Fawr, Bro Morgannwg, y mae ei hyd uchaf yn 6 metr a'r lled uchaf yn 2 fetr, y mae cyfanswm ei hwynebedd yn 7 metr sgwâr, ac yn rhan o'r ddiortffordd ar llin ymyl a ddangosir â llinellau sebra ar y plan a adnwyd.

Atodlen 2

Y Datblygiad Arfaethedig.

Y wâl gynnal, y llywyd a'r riffordd allanol arfaethedig yn 1 Hill Head, Llanilltud Fawr, yn unol â chariatâd cynllunio a roddwyd gan Gynor Bwrdeistref Siro Bro Morgannwg o dan Ran II o Deddf 1990, ar 8 Gorffennaf 2011 o dan gyfeirnod 2011/00475/FUL.

A copy of this Notice in larger print can be obtained from Welsh Government, Transport, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NQ.

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

The Stopping Up of Highways (Hill Head, Llantwit Major, Vale of Glamorgan) Order 201-

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Welsh Ministers propose to make an Order under Section 247 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to authorise the stopping up of the area of highway described in Schedule 1 to this Notice.

If the Order is made, the stopping up will be authorised only in order to enable the development described in Schedule 2 to this notice to be carried out. The Order will cease to have effect if the planning permission expires or is revoked.

During the 28 days from 8 December 2011, copies of the draft Order and the deposited plan may be inspected free of charge at the offices of Llantwit Major Town Council, Town Hall, Llantwit Major CF61 1SD during normal opening hours or may be obtained free of charge from the address below.

Within the above mentioned period of 28 days, any person may, by notice to the Orders Branch, Transport, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NQ, object to the making of the Order.

Should you wish to object, support or make representations, we may need to consult with people and organisations outside of the Welsh Government. As part of the process of consulting with others the information you have given us and your personal data will be passed to the applicant/developer and on occasions the local highway authority to enable them to respond to you. We will however, only disclose your personal details where it is necessary to do so to enable us to deal with issues you have brought to our attention. Where a stopping up Order becomes the subject of a Public Inquiry (PI), all correspondence is copied to the Inspector of the Inquiry and is kept in the PI Library when it is publicly available.

A copy of the Order and Notice can be viewed at: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/legislation>, 'Subordinate legislation', 'Draft Legislation', 'Draft Non-Statutory Instruments', 'Town and Country Planning Act: Stopping Up Orders'.

M D BURNELL
Transport
Welsh Government

Schedule 1

(All measurements are approximate)

Description of the area of highway to be stopped up under this Order.

An irregularly shaped area of highway adjacent to 1 Hill Head, Llantwit Major, Vale of Glamorgan, measuring a maximum of 6 metres in length by a maximum of 2 metres in width, with a total area of 7 square metres, forming part of the footway and verge shown in zebra hatching on the deposited plan.

Schedule 2

Proposed Development.

Proposed retaining wall, pathway and external stairway at 1 Hill Head, Llantwit Major, in accordance with planning permission granted by the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council under Part II of the Act of 1990, on 8 July 2011 under reference 2011/00475/FUL.



Lywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

www.cymru.gov.uk

Birthday Notices

Happy 21st Birthday

**SUZI
LINDSAY**

Monday 12th December 2011

Lots of love, Liam,
Jenny and Dad
x x x



Happy 70th Birthday

**WENDY
HALLETT**

12 December 2011

To the best Mum and Nanny ever
All Our Love, Emma, Martin,
David & Matthew, their partners and
all your grandchildren xxx

Family Notices

GRIFFITHS

Gordon

Peacefully on Saturday December 3 at home with his family at Llanblethian.

Beloved husband of Helen, dearly loved father and father-in-law of Andrew and Akiko, Sian and David, Sarah and Nick and a loving grandfather.

Funeral and interment on Wednesday December 14 at 2pm at Llanblethian Church.

Family flowers only.

Donations, if so desired, to Marie Curie
c/o Thomas Brothers Funeral Directors,
Llandough, Cowbridge

Fairclough

Philip Neil

Peacefully on November 30, Philip, loving son of John and Jean, much-loved brother of Stephen and the late Michael.

Uncle to his nieces and nephews, loving partner of Sonia, sadly missed by Zoe and Dean, will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Funeral service at St Dochdys Church, Llandough, Cowbridge on Friday December 9 at 12 noon, followed by interment. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Brothers, Green Gate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major.

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So you drive a modern diesel – do you know about DPFs?

NEARLY all diesels made in the last six years are fitted with a 'Diesel Particulate Filter' (DPF) designed to save the environment from all the toxic soot that traditional diesels are famous for.

The basic idea is that the DPF traps all the soot produced and burns it off during a long journey.

As with any filter (think of the bag in your

vacuum cleaner) they have to be emptied regularly to maintain performance and allow the system to work properly.

For a DPF this process is called 'regeneration' where any collected soot is burnt off at high temperature to leave only a tiny ash residue.

To get your vehicle to 'regenerate' you need to get it up to average temperature on a continuous run of about 20 minutes.

Unfortunately, if you don't do frequent longer

distance journeys the DPF filter will clog and force your vehicle into a reduced performance mode.

You'll probably be presented with a DPF symbol on the dash or messages like 'Anti-Pollution Fault', 'Exhaust Filter Problem' or 'Particulate Filter Fault'.

The worst thing any driver can do is to keep driving their vehicle when it flags up a fault; this is true of any light or error on the dash.

As soon as you start getting a warning, book your vehicle in at an independent specialist or the main dealer for a proper diagnostic test.

Most probably the cause will be a high accumulation of soot in the DPF, basically the filter beginning to block.

Regrettably, the main dealers are bound by vehicle manufacturer's guidelines and will recommend a DPF filter replacement. Sounds like a good idea, until you realise that a typical replacement DPF filter, made by the vehicle manufacturer, costs in excess of £1,000!

There is actually no need to replace the filter with new. Using computer controlled ovens or special cleaning

chemicals, blocked filters can be cleaned or cooked to burn off the excess soot.

This returns your DPF to as good as new and is far more cost effective than buying a new filter.

There is also a more drastic solution of a complete DPF removal. It requires the blocked filter being replaced with a standard exhaust and the tricky process of preventing the vehicle flashing up messages on the dash or remaining in limp mode.

A typical tuning or ECU expert is required to reprogram the ECU with custom software.

The disadvantage of this is that the vehicle will produce more soot like a conventional diesel engine, although well within current MOT regulation limits.

If you have a DPF or engine management problem, get the car to an independent specialist (make sure its somewhere that understands DPFs) as soon as possible to avoid costly engine or turbo damage. The worst thing you can do is to keep driving it!

If you have problems or would like to find out more, contact *Pernoveo Euro Specialists*, tel: 0800 033 7807.

Cadoxton Tae Kwon Do's Cheltenham medal haul

IN the early hours on Sunday, November 13, a small number of competitors and supporters from the Cadoxton Schools of Tae Kwon Do travelled to Cheltenham where more than 300 competitors from all over the UK converged to take part in the Global Tae Kwon Do International British Championships.

Showing that the Cadoxton students can compete and hold their own in all styles of Tae Kwon Do, Morganne Gomez took the gold in ladies pattern.

Bradley Halford and Thomas Haysham both took the silver in their own pattern categories.

Once the pattern sections were completed, the point stop and continuous sparring categories started, where Cian Allen fought his way through a mixed group to come away with third place and the bronze medal.

In one of the largest groups of the day, young Ollie Tipples had all the coaches praising his abilities as he went on to take the gold in both the



PICTURED: Matthew Bennett, Jamie Halford, Keita Enfield, Morgan Harry, Ollie Tipples, Bradley Halford, Lucy Newman, Thomas Haysham, Shannon Haysham and Cian Allen. Missing is Morganne Gomez.

point and continuous sparring.

Shannon Haysham did exceptionally well to take the silver in the girls lightweight point sparring.

Dominating his point and continuous sparring divisions, Bradley Halford took first place and the gold in both the point and continuous sparring.

Always having to compete against taller competitors, Thomas Haysham did extremely well to take second place and the silver medal in the boys point sparring.

As always, Lucy Newman didn't disappoint as she went on to take the silver medals in both the point and continuous sparring categories.

Once again, Morganne Harry battled his way to the silver in the point sparring and taking the gold in the continuous sparring.

Having fought his way through the men's heavyweight division, Jamie Halford came away with third place and the bronze medal.

Fighting his way through both the boys point and continuous sparring sections, Matthew Bennett reached the finals and took first and the gold in both his categories.

After a long layoff, Keita Enfield is back to her best, taking first and the gold in the women's point sparring.

Not to be left out and

last on the mat was Morganne Gomez, giving her all to take second place in the point sparring.

Morganne should have then taken the gold in the continuous sparring, but due to some dubious judging, she came away with second and a well-deserved silver medal.

Instructor and coach, Ron Thomas, along with Ricky Enfield, was extremely proud of the way the students performed and represented the Cadoxton School of Tae Kwon Do.

For further information, call Barry (01446) 406372 or see www.taekwondoassociationeurope.co.uk.

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'Swimability' lessons for disabled children

Swimming instructors Brian Jones and Phillipa Wheeler, together with swimming development officer Sian Davies (right), are all set for the new Swimability classes at Penarth Leisure Centre.

NEW swimming lessons for disabled children are to start for the first time at Penarth Leisure Centre.

A 'Swimability' beginners class for stages 1-4 will be held every Friday 6pm-6:30pm from December 9, while stages 5-7 will be taught every Monday 6pm-6:30pm from December 5.

Penarth Leisure Centre's new swimming development officer, Sian Davies, is excited about the Swimability

classes, and further new swimming sessions are also in the pipeline for the New Year.

Sian, who is the sister of Olympic swimming star David Davies, has taught hundreds of children to swim over the last few years. She said: "We are also looking into the possibility of introducing Welsh-language lessons, as well as mother and baby classes after Christmas."

For more information, telephone to book your child's place in the Swimability classes on 01446 403000.

Irene and Noelle retain the Cup!



ABOVE:

Irene Thomas and Noelle Bond after defending the Margaret Calder Cup.

THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club are as follows:

The club held its team championship for the David Martyn Cup on consecutive Tuesdays, November 15 and 22.

The winners, with 84 per cent, were Irene Thomas, Graham Jones, Mike Close and Tim Barsby.

The Four Aces Trophy for less experienced

teams was won by Kay Dyer, Diana Kendrick, Vivien Liles and Hilary Laurence.

The club's ladies pairs champions, Irene Thomas and Noelle Bond, recently successfully defended the Margaret Calder Cup which they won last year.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, telephone 01446 733425.



VALE TRAINERS' SATURDAY SUCCESS

VALE trainers Tim Vaughan and Evan Williams made it a great day for Welsh horse racing on Saturday, when they both landed winners at the two big race meetings Aintree and Sandown.

Tim took the famed Grand Sefton Handicap

Chase at Aintree with his nine-year-old *Stewart's House* and Evan the London National Handicap Chase at Sandown Park with his 10-year-old *Deep Purple*.

Stewart's House, who was racing over two miles and five furlongs of the Grand National course, held on by a neck to beat the gambled-on *Linnel*, but unfortunately *Stewart's House* jockey, Aidan

Coleman, was banned for seven days for using his whip 11 times – instead of the allowed eight – and forfeited his share of the £30,950 winning prize money.

Bookmakers now make *Stewart's House* a 33-1 chance for next year's Grand National. A delighted Tim said: "I bought *Stewart's House* for £11,000, and I am really happy for his owners, who are lovely people. He might be the type of Grand National horse which will hunt around for a circuit, and then get in the action in the closing stages of the race."

Evan's stable jockey Paul Moloney was seen at his best when winning on *Deep Purple*, who was running for the first time in 240 days and who carried top weight of 11st 12lb.

During the closing stages, *Deep Purple*, who had been prominent throughout, looked like a beaten horse and appeared to be going backwards.

However, Moloney soon had him going again and he went on to win by the easiest of three lengths to the surprise of his handler, who had doubts about his charge staying the three miles and five furlongs of this marathon event.

Deep Purple wasn't Evans' only winner of the day, as at Chepstow his nine-year-old *Oscar GoGo* won the two mile, three furlong handicap chase under Adam Wedge.

BRIAN LEE

Good football from Rhoose under-13s

RHOOSE under-13s played Wenvoe and started the game with some good attacking football.

They took the lead when Daniel Cope weaved his way through the Wenvoe defence before passing to Cameron Leach, whose first time effort found the top corner.

Rhose continued to attack, with Mitch McCabe always looking threatening down the left wing, and increased their lead with a well-worked move involving Jay Coles, who threaded the ball into the path of Daniel Cope, who kept his composure and slotted it home.

Wenvoe looked threatening on the break and were rewarded with a well-struck effort just before the break.

In the second half, Rhose used the wind to their advantage and central defender Matt Cottingham hit a blister-

ing strike from outside the box to increase the Rhose advantage.

Rhose defenders Ryan Hughes, Edward Thomas and Patrick O'Carroll remained focused throughout the game and looked solid at the back. Lee Bartlett linked up well with Josh Brown in midfield and it was Lee who crossed the ball to Cameron Leach, who scored his second.

Josh Brown had a great opportunity to score, but unselfishly picked out Mitch McCabe, who slotted the ball into the net.

Jordan Holt made some timely challenges in midfield and Joe Hopkins looked composed in defence. Just before the end, Cameron Leach picked up on a long kick by keeper Michael Wilson and completed his hat-trick.

This was a great send off for Rhose manager Mark Bartlett, who is deploying overseas for 12 months.

MB

Schools gymnasts are on top form in regional finals

LLANTWIT Major School Gymnastics teams have started the competition season very impressively for the third consecutive year.

The regional novice championships, held in Whitchurch High School, were on Friday, November 24.

The school entered three teams, under-14 boys (James Hilditch, Matthew Young, Ben Burrows and Peter Teague); under-14 girls (Sophie Doogue, Chelsea Dawes, Charlotte Law and Lara Tombs); and under-12 girls (Alice Teague, Rachel Reilly, Cerys Thomas, Ellie Wride and Georgia Roberts Powell).

All did extremely well in the regionals, with the boys being crowned county champions and the year-7 girls runners up.

Both teams qualified for the Welsh finals in the Welsh Institute of Sport the following week.

The finals got off to a good start with strong routines from the under-12 girls – schools from all across the country travelled to Cardiff for the finals.

With more than 25 schools, the under-12 girls finished in a strong fifth place.

The boys competition saw the four under-14 boys awarded a silver medal.



Llantwit's under-12 girls gymnastic team.

Club gains black belts

INSTRUCTOR Simon Griffiths (3rd Dan) was overwhelmed with pride when five of his hard-working students achieved their Kukkiwon 1st Dan black belts in the Korean art of WTF Olympic Taekwondo.

With encouragement and guidance from their instructor and the assistant instructor, Seb Davies, they trained hard for two years to perfect their skills and fitness to the required standards at Ystradon Village Hall, Cowbridge.

The test was overlooked and supervised by Master Porl Stone (Taekwondo Cymru Association) who is the

only Korean registered 5th Dan examiner in Wales, and has produced national, international and junior Olympic medallists over the last 25 years.

The examination included traditional Korean patterns, breaking ability, full contact sparring and a number of self defence movements, and the students now hold world and Olympic recognised Kukkiwon Korean certificates.

If you or your children are interested in joining our family friendly club, then come along to the Ystradon Village Hall on Wednesdays at 5.30pm – 7pm or contact Simon through www.taekwondocymru.co.uk.

SG

Darts league

A League Points:

Wenvoe Arms 87, White Hart 86, Boverton Castle A1 82, Kings Head 74, Kings Cup 71, Shoes Peterston 68, Golden Cups 63, Rugby Club 62, Fox & Hounds 54, Blacksmiths A1 49, Four Bells 47, Lamb & Flag 43, Blacksmiths A2 32, Boverton Castle A2 27.

C League Points:

Lamb & Flag C1 46, Carpenters Arms 43, Lamb & Flag C2 39, Kings Head C1 38, Kings Cup 37, Highwayman 29, Kings Head C2 26, Farmers Arms 21, Rugby Club 16.

DC

Barry under-7s are starting to make progress

BARRY under-7s Mini Bombers took to the road once more for a trip to Rhydrefelin under-7s.

Even though the sun was shining, the conditions underfoot were very heavy, but this did not deter either side from playing some very entertaining rugby.

Barry lost out to some very organised and skillful rugby in the first of two games by a score of 6 tries to 3, but the Mini Bombers showed great character and played some excellent flowing rugby of their own to win the second game 5-4 and end the morning on a high.

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57 07 FORD KA Zetec 1297cc 3-dr Hatchback.

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52 02 SKODA Octavia RS 1781cc. Metallic sil-

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OBJECT OF DESIRE NEEDS FIRM HAND...

A raunchy lonely hearts ad in a newspaper? No. More a description of the super sleek, ultra luxurious Maserati Quattroporte V8 Sport GTS saloon.

A colleague of mine is the chief executive of a public limited company and when he wanted a unique set of wheels, he looked no further than the legendary Italian manufacturer.

"I've had a thoroughly satisfactory decade of owning Maseratis," he reveals, not wishing to divulge his name for fear of negative publicity as the pay gap between bosses and staff continues to rise.

"And as far as the QP (Quattroporte) is concerned one word covers it - 'everything' - it is 'everything' I need from a car!"

From the moment you clap eyes on it, its strong presence is instantly felt. The grille is like a monster's mouth - I wouldn't like to see that fast approaching in my rear view mirror! The Quattroporte's elegant design never fails to win admirers and it's hard to tear yourself away to actually step inside and drive. This



very tasteful, well-proportioned supermodel is drop-dead gorgeous even if the rear is a little nondescript.

This is only the second time I have had the chance of driving a Maserati and like drinking a fine Chateau Margaux, the experience never fails to satisfy, feeling just that little bit naughty.

Like the equally attractive GranTurismo I had the pleasure of driving last year, as soon as you open the door a smile instantaneously stretches across your face.

It happens without fail every time as you are greeted by the sumptuous leather and a finish of the highest quality.

This, combined with a superior driving position, all help to create a

truly winning formula. Turn the key in the ignition and the roar and subsequent rumble from the exhaust is sufficient to make the road beneath vibrate and instantly send my nine-month old daughter Harriett off to the land of nod.

Our run along the A27 to Brighton provides some good opportunities to sample the Maserati's magnificent abilities - and they can be enjoyed within the legal speed limit, too. With a sub-five second 0-60 time boyracers are left... frankly irritated. And my Italian beauty does this so effortlessly.

It feels as if you're nursing an explosive because the smallest kick of the accelerator sees it literally launch off like a rocket while it

corners with laser-guided precision. The six-speed auto quickly and generally smoothly changes between gears getting the most from the 4.7-litre engine.

However, when pushed hard, it does seem to lurch through the gears giving an unsettling journey for my wife who was grasping the roof-mounted grab handle for all she was worth!

A Maserati makes a magnificent statement. Maserati Quattroporte (2004 on).

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0-60mph: 4.9secs.
Top speed: 177mph.
Power: 433bhp.
Economy: 18mpg.
TIM SAUNDERS



06 06 FORD Fiesta ST 1999cc 3-dr Hatchback. In blue, air con, 1/2 leather sports seats, radio/CD, low miles just 43k, FSH...£3,995

01 VOLVO V70 Automatic Estate. 2001 model with 7 seats, FSH, A/C, CD, E/W, remote locking, comes with new MOT, taxed until May 2012...£2,195

06 FORD Transit 2-Litre Diesel, MoT July 2012, full service history...£5,295

03 DAEWOO Kalos 1.4. 5-dr, alloys, c/s, p/w, a/c, service history, MoT Oct 12, Tax April 12, mileage 69k...£1,895

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A BOY'S OWN ENDING AS SHANE SOMERSAULTS INTO FOLKLORE

IN the days before the kick-off on Saturday, Wales head coach Warren Gatland had voiced his concerns that the game against Australia was a "test too far" for a team that had given their all, physically and mentally, at the Rugby World Cup in New Zealand.

And, indeed, this proved to be the case. In the end, it was surely too much to expect young players who had been hailed as one of the teams of the tournament, and hitting previously unreach heights of excellence, to repeat that prodigious effort so soon, in a match that had little real significance, other than at the turnstiles.

Gatland had acknowledged this in conceding that the Millennium stadium fixture, though outside the normal international 'window', was needed to raise revenue for the WRU, given the absence of autumn fixtures in World Cup year.

Even with the usual fervent backing of a 62,000-strong home crowd (surprisingly large, considering the current economic climate and the close proximity to Christmas) a much-depleted Wales were unable to replicate the stunning form that electrified the World Cup tournament.

While the final score-line (18-24) was not too dissimilar to the RWC 'bronze' final loss to Australia (18-21) the quality of performance was a world away from the standard Wales hit Down Under.

Determination and commitment there was in abundance, but their efforts, not surprisingly, lacked the level of intensity they had achieved against South Africa and Ireland, for example, not many weeks before.

Even so, Wales ended a drab first half with a 6-3 lead, thanks to two penalties by outside half Rhys Priestland, to one by his

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opposite number O'Connor. Injuries and unavailability robbed them of several first choice players, most notably prop Adam Jones, and once again his absence not only underlined how utterly indispensable he is to Wales, but also the failure of the professional regions to produce comparable tight-heads in the decade since they replaced the first class clubs as the top tier of Welsh rugby.

One notable highlight in an otherwise low-key first period, was a try-saving tackle at the corner post by Shane Williams, playing in his 87th and final international match (a feat he repeated in the second half) and the expectant crowd hoped that the Welsh team would step up a gear after the interval, to help him sign off with a memorable win over one of the Tri-Nations giants.

One minute into the second half, the unfortunate Leigh Halfpenny was re-carded for tackling an attacker without the ball and during the 10 minutes he was in the sin bin, clinical Australia suddenly showed their world class pedigree by running in three smartly-taken tries.

To their credit, Wales pluckily battled back, with Rhys Priestland burrowing and twisting over for a try he converted himself, to make the score 11-24 - with time fast ebbing away.

Then, almost on the stroke of full time, came the Boy's Own ending that everyone in the crowd had been waiting for.

The Welsh forwards won the ball and it was sent spinning wide to the right and who should be there, but Shane Williams (typically looking for work in the centre!) dancing and gliding through for his 58th try for Wales (plus two more for the British and Irish Lions).



His jubilant somersault brought to an end an epic international career that has placed him firmly among the greatest players to have ever donned a Welsh, or any other rugby jersey.

Wales' loss should be Ospreys' gain, for hopefully - as in the case of Welsh football star, Ryan Giggs - there will be several more seasons yet ahead to light up the club scene before the little maestro finally hangs up his boots.

As for the Welsh squad, they will be welcomed back with relief by their regions before resuming Heineken hostilities and then gearing up for the Six Nations in the New Year.

Further ahead still is the daunting prospect of three full tests in Australia and after Saturday, the Welsh camp have been reminded of the gap that has still to be closed if they are to finally lift that elusive southern hemisphere scalp.



The many faces of Shane... (left) with his son and daughter, (above) heading for the try line and (below) touching down for the last time in a Welsh shirt.



BARRY SECONDS WIN IN STOP-START GAME

BARRY Second XV returned to home action against a St Albans side who have recently rejoined the league.

The home side recalled Ashley Adams from the First XV to start in the centre alongside David Williams, while Shane Parker, who normally wears the No 12 shirt, was pushed into the back row as cover.

In blustery conditions it was difficult for both sides to play attractive, flowing rugby. Their cause was not helped by

BARRY SECOND XV 7 ST ALBANS SECOND XV 0

the referee who, within seconds, sent off a St Albans supporter for 'heckling'.

That set the tone for a game which was dominated not by either team, but by the official.

Some rugby was to be played despite this. The half-back partnership of Richie and Joel Williams once again showed some promise, while the ball-carrying efforts of the pack, especially Lundy, Owain Poole and Nick Rolfe, were commendable.

Adam Lee, at full back, found his range with the boot as he gave Barry the territory needed for his team-mates to strike. After long periods of forward dominance in the opposition 22, quick ball was finally recycled and Alex Evans was at hand to score in the cor-

ner. Lee added the extras. The referee continued to make some puzzling decisions that favoured neither team.

In between, there was some heroic defending by the home side as St Albans looked to get back into the game.

With the half-time score at only 7-0 and Barry playing against the elements in the second half, the match was still up for grabs. St Albans camped in the green-and-whites' 22, but the defensive effort by forwards and backs alike gave them few openings.

The home scrum was dominant, while Kyle Case was colossal in the line-out. This forced the away side to look for long hopeful passes to try to release their pace out wide.

From one such pass,

Ashley Adams intercepted and looked odds on to score underneath the posts, only for the referee to call back play, refusing to play any advantage.

Unfortunately, this happened again moments later, and this time he called back play as substitute Luke Bounds and David Williams stormed away on the left to score in the corner.

Despite this setback, and also a sin-binning for Shane Parker and Ashley Adams, Barry held on until the final whistle to record a well-earned win.

Team: Lee, Evans, D Williams, Adams, T Poole, R Williams, J Williams, Houldey, Hosking, Lundy, Summerhayes, Case (captain), Parker, O Poole, Rolfe.

Subs used: Thomas, Jones, Boudas, Hewitson.

Man-of-the-match: Hosking.

KC

Treharris are caught in Dinas Powys goal rush

NEW signing Steffan Davies had to be content with a place on the bench as manager Mark Dunford kept faith with the players who had performed well in winning their previous two games in this encounter.

Steve Provis' long throw was always going to be a potent weapon on the small pitch at Treharris and, as early as the second minute, he launched one deep into the home side's six-yard box. It cleared one defender, glanced off another and went over the line to give Dinas the sort of start they would have wished for.

On a sticky pitch, good football was at a premium and Dinas were more effective by getting the ball forward quickly, and when keeper Dave Burnett cleared long, Liam Jeremy did well to get his shot in, only to see home keeper Mathew Evans parry the ball.

When Treharris were awarded a free-kick 25 yards from goal the Dinas keeper dealt comfortably with a Jason Morris effort.

On 40 minutes, Dinas doubled their lead. Mike Lewis found Robbie Fowler on the left having switched wings and he beat the

retreating defence to coolly lob keeper Evans and score from 18 yards.

There was still time for another Dinas goal before half-time, when a Liam Jeremy corner was allowed to run to Chris Hinam who made no mistake from close range.

Dinas bettered their first-half start by scoring in the first minute of the second. Again it was Liam Jeremy's corner, this time finding Will Penikett at the far post with the simplest of tap-ins from a couple of yards.

A minute later, the home side had a sniff of a goal when Dinas keeper Burnett failed to gather a cross but his defence were on hand to clear the danger.

15 minutes into the half, Treharris had their best chance so far when neat passing freed Rhys Tandy, but his shot rolled wide of the far post.

Ten minutes later, they did get a goal back and it was substitute Mathew Sellick who finished a goalmouth scramble with a close range shot into the net.

Substitute Steffan Davies came on in place of the hard working Joe Hinds and it wasn't long before he made his presence felt.

Dinas attacked on the left and Robbie Fowler gave Davies the opportunity, and he coolly guided the ball past the keeper from 15 yards for their fifth.

The home side had the last say in the game when they got their second goal just before full-time.

David Mitchell shot high into the net with a 25-yard free-kick, for a final score of 5-2.

This was Dinas' third win in as many games and although they face a tougher test next week when they entertain Newport YMCA, they will go into the game with plenty of confidence.

Squad: 1. Dave Burnett, 2. Steve Provis, 3. Chris Hinam, 4. Mike Lewis, 5. Dave Penikett, 6. Will Penikett, 7. Robbie Fowler, 8. Richard Yarr, 9. Joe Hinds, 10. Adam Raymond, 11. Liam Jeremy. **Subs:** 12. Chris Lewis, 14. Mathew Trotman, 15. Gareth Tedstone, 16. Steffan Davies, 17.

The next game is a Welsh League Division Two match at home on December 10, Dinas Powys v Newport YMCA, kick off 2pm.

Morley Williams

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